A/55/49 (Vol. I)

United Nations

# Resolutions
# and
# Decisions

## adopted by the General Assembly during its fifty-fifth session

## Volume I

## Resolutions

## 5 September – 23 December 2000

**General Assembly**
**Official Records • Fifty-fifth Session**
**Supplement No. 49 (A/55/49)**

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United Nations • New York, 2001

## NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly are identified as follows:

### Regular sessions

Until the thirtieth regular session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed by a roman numeral in parentheses indicating the session (for example: resolution 3363 (XXX)). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter placed between the two numerals (for example: resolution 3367 A (XXX), resolutions 3411 A and B (XXX), resolutions 3419 A to D (XXX)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the thirty-first session, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of General Assembly documents, resolutions and decisions have been identified by an arabic numeral, indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution 31/1, decision 31/301). When several resolutions or decisions were adopted under the same number, each of them has been identified by a capital letter placed after the two numerals (for example: resolution 31/16 A, resolutions 31/6 A and B, decisions 31/406 A to E).

### Special sessions

Until the seventh special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letter "S" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 3362 (S-VII)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the eighth special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letter "S" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution S-8/1, decision S-8/11).

### Emergency special sessions

Until the fifth emergency special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letters "ES" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 2252 (ES-V)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the sixth emergency special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letters "ES" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution ES-6/1, decision ES-6/11).

In each of the series described above, the numbering follows the order of adoption.

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The present volume contains the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly from 5 September to 23 December 2000, as well as the information requested by the General Assembly in section C, paragraph 3, of its resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999. Decisions adopted by the Assembly during this period appear in volume II. Resolutions and decisions adopted subsequently during the fifty-fifth session will be published in volume III.

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## RESOLUTION 55/1

Adopted at the 1st plenary meeting, on 5 September 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cyprus, Denmark, Fiji, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Samoa, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago

### 55/1. Admission of Tuvalu to membership in the United Nations

*The General Assembly*,

*Having received* the recommendation of the Security Council of 17 February 2000 that Tuvalu should be admitted to membership in the United Nations,[1]

*Having considered* the application for membership of Tuvalu,[2]

*Decides* to admit Tuvalu to membership in the United Nations.

## RESOLUTION 55/2

Adopted at the 8th plenary meeting, on 8 September 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.2, referred by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session

### 55/2. United Nations Millennium Declaration

*The General Assembly*

*Adopts* the following Declaration:

### United Nations Millennium Declaration

#### I. Values and principles

1. We, heads of State and Government, have gathered at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 6 to 8 September 2000, at the dawn of a new millennium, to reaffirm our faith in the Organization and its Charter as indispensable foundations of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world.

2. We recognize that, in addition to our separate responsibilities to our individual societies, we have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level. As leaders we have a duty therefore to all the world's people, especially the most vulnerable and, in particular, the children of the world, to whom the future belongs.

3. We reaffirm our commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which have proved timeless and universal. Indeed, their relevance and capacity to inspire have increased, as nations and peoples have become increasingly interconnected and interdependent.

4. We are determined to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter. We rededicate ourselves to support all efforts to uphold the sovereign equality of all States, respect for their territorial integrity and political independence, resolution of disputes by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, the right to self-determination of peoples which remain under colonial domination and foreign occupation, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for the equal rights of all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion and international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character.

5. We believe that the central challenge we face today is to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people. For while globalization offers great opportunities, at present its benefits are very unevenly shared, while its costs are unevenly distributed. We recognize that developing countries and countries with economies in transition face special difficulties in responding to this central challenge. Thus, only through broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future, based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable. These efforts must include policies and measures, at the global level, which correspond to the needs of developing countries and economies in transition and are formulated and implemented with their effective participation.

6. We consider certain fundamental values to be essential to international relations in the twenty-first century. These include:

- **Freedom.** Men and women have the right to live their lives and raise their children in dignity, free from hunger and from the fear of violence, oppression or injustice. Democratic and participatory governance based on the will of the people best assures these rights.
- **Equality.** No individual and no nation must be denied the opportunity to benefit from development. The equal rights and opportunities of women and men must be assured.
- **Solidarity.** Global challenges must be managed in a way that distributes the costs and burdens fairly in accordance with basic principles of equity and social justice. Those who suffer or who benefit least deserve help from those who benefit most.
- **Tolerance.** Human beings must respect one other, in all their diversity of belief, culture and language.

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[1] A/54/758.

[2] A/54/699-S/2000/5.

Differences within and between societies should be neither feared nor repressed, but cherished as a precious asset of humanity. A culture of peace and dialogue among all civilizations should be actively promoted.

- **Respect for nature.** Prudence must be shown in the management of all living species and natural resources, in accordance with the precepts of sustainable development. Only in this way can the immeasurable riches provided to us by nature be preserved and passed on to our descendants. The current unsustainable patterns of production and consumption must be changed in the interest of our future welfare and that of our descendants.
- **Shared responsibility.** Responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally. As the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role.

7. In order to translate these shared values into actions, we have identified key objectives to which we assign special significance.

## II. Peace, security and disarmament

8. We will spare no effort to free our peoples from the scourge of war, whether within or between States, which has claimed more than 5 million lives in the past decade. We will also seek to eliminate the dangers posed by weapons of mass destruction.

9. We resolve therefore:

- To strengthen respect for the rule of law in international as in national affairs and, in particular, to ensure compliance by Member States with the decisions of the International Court of Justice, in compliance with the Charter of the United Nations, in cases to which they are parties.
- To make the United Nations more effective in maintaining peace and security by giving it the resources and tools it needs for conflict prevention, peaceful resolution of disputes, peacekeeping, post-conflict peace-building and reconstruction. In this context, we take note of the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations,[3] and request the General Assembly to consider its recommendations expeditiously.
- To strengthen cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter.
- To ensure the implementation, by States Parties, of treaties in areas such as arms control and disarmament and of international humanitarian law and human rights law, and call upon all States to consider signing and ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.[4]
- To take concerted action against international terrorism, and to accede as soon as possible to all the relevant international conventions.
- To redouble our efforts to implement our commitment to counter the world drug problem.
- To intensify our efforts to fight transnational crime in all its dimensions, including trafficking as well as smuggling in human beings and money laundering.
- To minimize the adverse effects of United Nations economic sanctions on innocent populations, to subject such sanctions regimes to regular reviews and to eliminate the adverse effects of sanctions on third parties.
- To strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers.
- To take concerted action to end illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons, especially by making arms transfers more transparent and supporting regional disarmament measures, taking account of all the recommendations of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons.
- To call on all States to consider acceding to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[5] as well as the amended mines protocol to the Convention on conventional weapons.[6]

10. We urge Member States to observe the Olympic Truce, individually and collectively, now and in the future, and to support the International Olympic Committee in its efforts to

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[3] A/55/305-S/2000/809.

[4] A/CONF.183/9.

[5] See CD/1478.

[6] Amended protocol on prohibitions or restrictions on the use of mines, booby-traps and other devices (CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B).

promote peace and human understanding through sport and the Olympic Ideal.

### III. Development and poverty eradication

11. We will spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected. We are committed to making the right to development a reality for everyone and to freeing the entire human race from want.

12. We resolve therefore to create an environment – at the national and global levels alike – which is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty.

13. Success in meeting these objectives depends, inter alia, on good governance within each country. It also depends on good governance at the international level and on transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems. We are committed to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system.

14. We are concerned about the obstacles developing countries face in mobilizing the resources needed to finance their sustained development. We will therefore make every effort to ensure the success of the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development, to be held in 2001.

15. We also undertake to address the special needs of the least developed countries. In this context, we welcome the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to be held in May 2001 and will endeavour to ensure its success. We call on the industrialized countries:

- To adopt, preferably by the time of that Conference, a policy of duty- and quota-free access for essentially all exports from the least developed countries;
- To implement the enhanced programme of debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries without further delay and to agree to cancel all official bilateral debts of those countries in return for their making demonstrable commitments to poverty reduction; and
- To grant more generous development assistance, especially to countries that are genuinely making an effort to apply their resources to poverty reduction.

16. We are also determined to deal comprehensively and effectively with the debt problems of low- and middle-income developing countries, through various national and international measures designed to make their debt sustainable in the long term.

17. We also resolve to address the special needs of small island developing States, by implementing the Barbados Programme of Action[7] and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly rapidly and in full. We urge the international community to ensure that, in the development of a vulnerability index, the special needs of small island developing States are taken into account.

18. We recognize the special needs and problems of the landlocked developing countries, and urge both bilateral and multilateral donors to increase financial and technical assistance to this group of countries to meet their special development needs and to help them overcome the impediments of geography by improving their transit transport systems.

19. We resolve further:

- To halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger and, by the same date, to halve the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water.
- To ensure that, by the same date, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education.
- By the same date, to have reduced maternal mortality by three quarters, and under-five child mortality by two thirds, of their current rates.
- To have, by then, halted, and begun to reverse, the spread of HIV/AIDS, the scourge of malaria and other major diseases that afflict humanity.
- To provide special assistance to children orphaned by HIV/AIDS.
- By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers as proposed in the "Cities Without Slums" initiative.

20. We also resolve:

- To promote gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective ways to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate development that is truly sustainable.
- To develop and implement strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work.

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[7] Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (*Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II).

- To encourage the pharmaceutical industry to make essential drugs more widely available and affordable by all who need them in developing countries.
- To develop strong partnerships with the private sector and with civil society organizations in pursuit of development and poverty eradication.
- To ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication technologies, in conformity with recommendations contained in the ECOSOC 2000 Ministerial Declaration,[8] are available to all.

### IV. Protecting our common environment

21. We must spare no effort to free all of humanity, and above all our children and grandchildren, from the threat of living on a planet irredeemably spoilt by human activities, and whose resources would no longer be sufficient for their needs.

22. We reaffirm our support for the principles of sustainable development, including those set out in Agenda 21,[9] agreed upon at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

23. We resolve therefore to adopt in all our environmental actions a new ethic of conservation and stewardship and, as first steps, we resolve:

- To make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, preferably by the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002, and to embark on the required reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases.
- To intensify our collective efforts for the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.
- To press for the full implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity[10] and the Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa.[11]
- To stop the unsustainable exploitation of water resources by developing water management strategies at the regional, national and local levels, which promote both equitable access and adequate supplies.
- To intensify cooperation to reduce the number and effects of natural and man-made disasters.
- To ensure free access to information on the human genome sequence.

### V. Human rights, democracy and good governance

24. We will spare no effort to promote democracy and strengthen the rule of law, as well as respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development.

25. We resolve therefore:

- To respect fully and uphold the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.[12]
- To strive for the full protection and promotion in all our countries of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights for all.
- To strengthen the capacity of all our countries to implement the principles and practices of democracy and respect for human rights, including minority rights.
- To combat all forms of violence against women and to implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.[13]
- To take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies.
- To work collectively for more inclusive political processes, allowing genuine participation by all citizens in all our countries.
- To ensure the freedom of the media to perform their essential role and the right of the public to have access to information.

### VI. Protecting the vulnerable

26. We will spare no effort to ensure that children and all civilian populations that suffer disproportionately the

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[8] E/2000/L.9.

[9] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[10] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[12] Resolution 217 A (III).

[13] Resolution 34/180, annex.

consequences of natural disasters, genocide, armed conflicts and other humanitarian emergencies are given every assistance and protection so that they can resume normal life as soon as possible.

We resolve therefore:

- To expand and strengthen the protection of civilians in complex emergencies, in conformity with international humanitarian law.
- To strengthen international cooperation, including burden sharing in, and the coordination of humanitarian assistance to, countries hosting refugees and to help all refugees and displaced persons to return voluntarily to their homes, in safety and dignity and to be smoothly reintegrated into their societies.
- To encourage the ratification and full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[14] and its optional protocols on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.[15]

## VII. Meeting the special needs of Africa

27. We will support the consolidation of democracy in Africa and assist Africans in their struggle for lasting peace, poverty eradication and sustainable development, thereby bringing Africa into the mainstream of the world economy.

28. We resolve therefore:

- To give full support to the political and institutional structures of emerging democracies in Africa.
- To encourage and sustain regional and subregional mechanisms for preventing conflict and promoting political stability, and to ensure a reliable flow of resources for peacekeeping operations on the continent.
- To take special measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa, including debt cancellation, improved market access, enhanced Official Development Assistance and increased flows of Foreign Direct Investment, as well as transfers of technology.
- To help Africa build up its capacity to tackle the spread of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and other infectious diseases.

## VIII. Strengthening the United Nations

29. We will spare no effort to make the United Nations a more effective instrument for pursuing all of these priorities: the fight for development for all the peoples of the world, the fight against poverty, ignorance and disease; the fight against injustice; the fight against violence, terror and crime; and the fight against the degradation and destruction of our common home.

30. We resolve therefore:

- To reaffirm the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policy-making and representative organ of the United Nations, and to enable it to play that role effectively.
- To intensify our efforts to achieve a comprehensive reform of the Security Council in all its aspects.
- To strengthen further the Economic and Social Council, building on its recent achievements, to help it fulfil the role ascribed to it in the Charter.
- To strengthen the International Court of Justice, in order to ensure justice and the rule of law in international affairs.
- To encourage regular consultations and coordination among the principal organs of the United Nations in pursuit of their functions.
- To ensure that the Organization is provided on a timely and predictable basis with the resources it needs to carry out its mandates.
- To urge the Secretariat to make the best use of those resources, in accordance with clear rules and procedures agreed by the General Assembly, in the interests of all Member States, by adopting the best management practices and technologies available and by concentrating on those tasks that reflect the agreed priorities of Member States.
- To promote adherence to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel.[16]
- To ensure greater policy coherence and better cooperation between the United Nations, its agencies, the Bretton Woods Institutions and the World Trade Organization, as well as other multilateral bodies, with a view to achieving a fully coordinated approach to the problems of peace and development.

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[14] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[15] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.

[16] Resolution 49/59, annex.

- To strengthen further cooperation between the United Nations and national parliaments through their world organization, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in various fields, including peace and security, economic and social development, international law and human rights and democracy and gender issues.
- To give greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society, in general, to contribute to the realization of the Organization's goals and programmes.

31. We request the General Assembly to review on a regular basis the progress made in implementing the provisions of this Declaration, and ask the Secretary-General to issue periodic reports for consideration by the General Assembly and as a basis for further action.

32. We solemnly reaffirm, on this historic occasion, that the United Nations is the indispensable common house of the entire human family, through which we will seek to realize our universal aspirations for peace, cooperation and development. We therefore pledge our unstinting support for these common objectives and our determination to achieve them.

## RESOLUTION 55/3

Adopted at the 38th plenary meeting, on 20 October 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.8 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

### 55/3. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the Agreement between the Council of Europe and the Secretariat of the United Nations signed on 15 December 1951 and the Arrangement on Cooperation and Liaison between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Council of Europe of 19 November 1971,

*Acknowledging* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the protection and strengthening of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law on the European continent, including its activities against racism and intolerance, the promotion of gender equality, social development and a common cultural heritage,

*Acknowledging also* that, with its significant expertise in the field of human rights, democratic institutions and the rule of law, the Council of Europe is also promoting the prevention of conflict and long-term post-conflict peace-building through political and institutional reform,

*Stressing* the importance of adherence to the standards and principles of the Council of Europe and its contribution to the solution of conflicts throughout the whole of Europe,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the further improvement of cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and its agencies and the Council of Europe, both at the level of headquarters and in the field;

2. *Welcomes* the increasingly close cooperation between the Council of Europe, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

3. *Welcomes also* the close and fruitful cooperation between the Council of Europe and the International Law Commission of the United Nations, and the contribution of the Council of Europe to the United Nations Decade of International Law;

4. *Welcomes further* the contributions of the Council of Europe to the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly entitled, respectively, "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", which was held in New York from 5 to 9 June 2000, and "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", which was held in Geneva from 26 to 30 June 2000;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Council of Europe for its organization of the European Conference against Racism, which was held in Strasbourg, France, from 11 to 13 October 2000, in preparation for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, which will be held in Durban, South Africa, in 2001;

6. *Welcomes* the participation of the Council of Europe in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, in its cooperation with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, notably with regard to the reform of the judiciary, the protection of minorities, property rights, registration and local democracy, as well as the observation of the electoral process in Kosovo, as requested by the United Nations;

7. *Welcomes also* the readiness of the Council of Europe to continue to fulfil the role assigned to it, under the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina,[17] with regard to the protection and promotion of human rights as well as in the field of judicial reform;

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[17] See A/50/790-S/1995/999.

8. *Welcomes further* the major contribution of the Council of Europe to the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, launched at the initiative of the European Union, and to the development of regional projects to support its aims;

9. *Welcomes* the active role of the Council of Europe in the tripartite meetings between the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue exploring, with the Chairman of the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, possibilities for further enhancement of cooperation, information exchange and coordination between the United Nations and the Council of Europe;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/4

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 25 October 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.12 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: China, Cyprus, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mongolia, Sri Lanka

### 55/4. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 36/38 of 18 November 1981, 37/8 of 29 October 1982, 38/37 of 5 December 1983, 39/47 of 10 December 1984, 40/60 of 9 December 1985, 41/5 of 17 October 1986, 43/1 of 17 October 1988, 45/4 of 16 October 1990, 47/6 of 21 October 1992, 49/8 of 25 October 1994, 51/11 of 4 November 1996 and 53/14 of 29 October 1998,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee,[18]

*Having heard* the statement made by the Secretary-General of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee on the steps taken by the Consultative Committee to ensure continuing, close and effective cooperation between the two organizations,[19]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[18]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the continuing efforts of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee towards strengthening the role of the United Nations and its various organs, including the International Court of Justice, through programmes and initiatives undertaken by the Consultative Committee;

3. *Also notes with satisfaction* the commendable progress achieved towards enhancing cooperation between the United Nations and the Consultative Committee in wider areas;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the decision of the Consultative Committee to participate actively in the programmes of the United Nations Decade of International Law and programmes on environment and sustainable development, as well as in the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of the International Criminal Court;

5. *Also notes with appreciation* the initiative and efforts the Consultative Committee will undertake to promote the objectives and principles set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[20] including wider acceptance of multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Consultative Committee;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee".

## RESOLUTION 55/6

Adopted at the 41st plenary meeting, on 26 October 2000, by a recorded vote of 136 to 2, with 10 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.9/Rev.1, sponsored by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana,

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[18] A/55/221.

[19] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 39th meeting (A/55/PV.39), and corrigendum.

[20] See resolution 55/2.

Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Albania, Australia, Canada, Dominican Republic, Kyrgyzstan, Nauru, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Tonga, Uruguay

## 55/6. Elimination of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, particularly those that call for the development of friendly relations among nations and the strengthening of cooperation in solving problems of an economic and social character,

*Taking note* of the opposition of the international community to unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures,

*Recalling* its resolutions in which it has called upon the international community to take urgent and effective steps to end unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures,

*Gravely concerned* over the continued application of unilateral extraterritorial coercive measures whose effects have an impact on the sovereignty of other States and the legitimate interests of their entities and individuals in violation of the norms of international law and the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Believing* that the prompt elimination of such measures would be consistent with the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of the Agreement on the World Trade Organization,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/22 of 27 November 1996 and 53/10 of 26 October 1998,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 53/10;[21]

2. *Reaffirms* that all peoples have the right to self-determination and that by virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

3. *Expresses its deep concern* at the negative impact of unilaterally imposed extraterritorial coercive economic measures on trade and financial and economic cooperation, including at the regional level, because they are contrary to the recognized principles of international law and pose serious obstacles to the freedom of trade and the free flow of capital at the regional and international levels;

4. *Reiterates its call* for the repeal of unilateral extraterritorial laws that impose coercive economic measures contrary to international law on corporations and nationals of other States;

5. *Again calls upon* all States not to recognize or apply unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures imposed by any State, which are contrary to recognized principles of international law;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "Elimination of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion".

## RESOLUTION 55/7

Adopted at the 44th plenary meeting, on 30 October 2000, by a recorded vote of 143 to 2, with 4 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.10 and Corr.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominica, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian

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[21] A/55/300 and Add.1 and 2.

Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Saint Kitts and Nevis, Turkey

*Abstentions:* Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela

### 55/7. Oceans and the law of the sea

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 52/26 of 26 November 1997, 54/31 and 54/33 of 24 November 1999 and other relevant resolutions adopted subsequent to the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention")[22] on 16 November 1994,

*Recalling also* its resolution 2749 (XXV) of 17 December 1970, and considering that the Convention, together with the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 ("the Agreement"),[23] provides the regime to be applied to the Area and its resources as defined in the Convention,

*Emphasizing* the universal and unified character of the Convention and its fundamental importance for the maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security, as well as for the sustainable use and development of the seas and oceans and their resources,

*Reaffirming* that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action in the marine sector, and that its integrity needs to be maintained, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[24]

*Conscious* of the importance of increasing the number of States parties to the Convention and the Agreement in order to achieve the goal of universal participation,

*Conscious also* that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole,

*Convinced* of the need, building on arrangements established in accordance with the Convention, to improve coordination at the national level and cooperation and coordination at both intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, in order to address all aspects of oceans and seas in an integrated manner,

*Recognizing* the important role that the competent international organizations have in relation to ocean affairs, in implementing the Convention and in promoting sustainable development of the oceans and seas and their resources,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[25] and reaffirming the importance of the annual consideration and review of developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea by the General Assembly as the global institution having the competence to undertake such a review,

*Taking note also* of the outcome of the first meeting of the United Nations open-ended informal consultative process ("the Consultative Process"),[26] established by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/33 in order to facilitate the annual review by the Assembly of developments in ocean affairs,

*Mindful* of the importance of the oceans and seas for the earth's ecosystem and for providing the vital resources for food security and for sustaining economic prosperity and the well-being of present and future generations,

*Bearing in mind* the contribution that major groups, as identified in Agenda 21, can make to raising awareness of the goal of the sustainable development of the oceans and seas and their resources,

*Underlining* the essential need for capacity-building to ensure that all States, especially developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, are able both to implement the Convention and to benefit from the sustainable development of their marine resources, as well as to participate fully in global and regional forums and processes dealing with oceans and law of the sea issues,

*Expressing serious concern* at the increase in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and recognizing the importance of strengthening cooperation to combat such activities, particularly through the relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements,

*Recalling* that the role of international cooperation and coordination on a bilateral basis and, where applicable, within a subregional, interregional, regional or global framework is to support and supplement the national efforts of coastal States to promote the integrated management and sustainable development of coastal and marine areas,

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[22] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

[23] Resolution 48/263, annex.

[24] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[25] A/55/61.

[26] See A/55/274.

*Expressing its deep concern* at the degradation of the marine environment, particularly from land-based activities, and emphasizing the need for international cooperation and for a coordinated approach at the national level to this problem, bringing together the many different economic sectors involved and protecting the ecosystems, and in this context reaffirming the importance of ensuring full implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,[27]

*Reiterating its concern* at the degradation of the marine environment as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and as a result of pollution by dumping of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals,

*Recalling* the importance of marine science in promoting the sustainable management of the oceans and seas, including in the assessment, conservation, management and sustainable use of fish stocks,

*Emphasizing* the need to ensure access of decision makers to advice and information on marine science and technology, as well as to the transfer of technology and support for the production and diffusion of factual information and knowledge for end-users, as appropriate,

*Expressing concern once again* at the continuing threat from piracy and armed robbery at sea, and in this context noting the letter from the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization to the Secretary-General of the United Nations drawing attention to the increasing number and seriousness of incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea,[28]

*Reaffirming* the importance of enhancing the safety of navigation, as well as the necessity for cooperation in this regard,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the protection of the underwater cultural heritage, and recalling in this context the provisions of article 303 of the Convention,

*Noting* the responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, and in this context the expected increase in responsibilities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in view of the progress in the work of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf ("the Commission") and the anticipated receipt of submissions from States,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention[22] and the Agreement;[23]

2. *Reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* States to harmonize, as a matter of priority, their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention, to ensure the consistent application of those provisions and to ensure also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention are in conformity therewith and, otherwise, to withdraw any of their declarations or statements that are not in conformity;

4. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to deposit with the Secretary-General charts and lists of geographical coordinates, as provided for in the Convention;

5. *Urges* the international community to assist, as appropriate, developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, in the acquisition of data and the preparation of charts or lists of geographical coordinates for publication under articles 16, 22, 47, 75 and 84 of the Convention and in the preparation of information under article 76 and annex II to the Convention;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention in New York from 14 to 18 May 2001 and to provide the services required;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued contribution of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ("the Tribunal") to the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with Part XV of the Convention, underlines its important role and authority concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Agreement, encourages States parties to the Convention to consider making a written declaration choosing from the means set out in article 287 for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Agreement, and invites States to note the provisions of annexes V, VI, VII and VIII to the Convention concerning, respectively, conciliation, the Tribunal, arbitration and special arbitration;

8. *Recalls* the obligations of parties to cases before a court or a tribunal referred to in article 287 of the Convention to ensure prompt compliance with the decisions rendered by such court or tribunal;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a voluntary trust fund to assist States in the settlement of disputes

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[27] A/51/116, annex II.

[28] A/55/311, annex.

through the Tribunal, and to report annually to the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the status of the fund;[29]

10. *Invites* States, intergovernmental organizations, national institutions, non-governmental organizations, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial contributions to the fund;

11. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to nominate conciliators and arbitrators in accordance with annexes V and VII to the Convention, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to update and circulate lists of these conciliators and arbitrators on a regular basis;

12. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Nodules in the Area by the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority ("the Authority") on 13 July 2000,[30] and notes with satisfaction that the Authority is now in a position to proceed to issue contracts to the registered pioneer investors in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and those Regulations;

13. *Appeals* to all States parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority and the Tribunal in full and on time, and appeals also to all former provisional members of the Authority to pay any outstanding contributions;

14. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Tribunal[31] and to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Authority;[32]

15. *Notes* the continuing progress in the work of the Commission, including the successful open meeting on 1 May 2000[33] aimed at assisting States in implementing the provisions of the Convention related to the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission by coastal States regarding the outer limits of their continental shelf;

16. *Also notes* that the Commission has issued a basic flow chart on the preparation of submissions[34] and has adopted an outline for a five-day training course on the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and for the preparation of submissions,[35] and encourages concerned States and relevant international organizations and institutions to consider developing and making available such training courses;

17. *Recalls* that under article 4 of annex II to the Convention, a State intending to establish the outer limits of its continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles is to submit particulars of such limits to the Commission within ten years of the entry into force of the Convention for that State;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a voluntary trust fund to provide training for technical and administrative staff, and technical and scientific advice, as well as personnel, to assist developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, for the purpose of desktop studies and project planning, and preparing and submitting information under article 76 and annex II to the Convention in accordance with the procedures of the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, and to report annually to the General Assembly on the status of the fund;[36]

19. *Invites* States, intergovernmental organizations and agencies, national institutions, non-governmental organizations and international financial institutions as well as natural and juridical persons to make voluntary financial or other contributions to the fund;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a voluntary trust fund for the purpose of defraying the cost of participation of the members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission,[37] and invites States to contribute to the fund;

21. *Approves* the convening by the Secretary-General of the ninth session of the Commission in New York from 21 to 25 May 2001 and a tenth session, if necessary, starting on 27 August 2001 of a duration of three weeks in the event of a submission being filed, or of one week, depending on the workload of the Commission;

22. *Calls upon* bilateral and multilateral donor agencies to keep their programmes under review to ensure the availability in all States, particularly in developing States, of the economic, legal, navigational, scientific and technical capacities and skills necessary for the full implementation of the Convention and the sustainable development of the oceans and seas and their resources nationally, regionally and globally, and in so doing to bear in mind the rights of landlocked developing States;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the competent international organizations and programmes, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the International Hydrographic Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Development

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[29] Terms of reference are annexed to the present resolution (see annex I).

[30] ISBA/6/A/18, annex.

[31] SPLOS/25.

[32] ISBA/4/A/8, annex.

[33] See CLCS/21.

[34] CLCS/22.

[35] CLCS/24.

[36] Terms of reference are annexed to the present resolution (see annex II).

[37] Covering both travel expenses and daily subsistence allowance.

Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Meteorological Organization and the World Bank, as well as representatives of regional development banks and the donor community, to review the efforts being made to build capacity as well as to identify the duplications that need to be avoided and the gaps that may need to be filled for ensuring consistent approaches, both nationally and regionally, with a view to implementing the Convention, and to include a section on this subject in his annual report on oceans and the law of the sea;

24. *Urges* States to continue the development of an international plan of action on illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as a matter of priority, and in this context recognizes the central role that regional and subregional fisheries organizations and arrangements will have in addressing this issue;[38]

25. *Emphasizes* the importance of the implementation of Part XII of the Convention in order to protect and preserve the marine environment, including coastal areas, and its living marine resources against pollution and physical degradation;

26. *Acknowledges* the need to build national capacity for the integrated management of the coastal zone and for the protection of its ecosystem, and invites relevant parts of the United Nations system to promote these aims, including through the provision of the training and institutional support needed to achieve them;

27. *Calls upon* States to prioritize action on marine pollution from land-based sources as part of their national sustainable development strategies and local Agenda 21 programmes, in an integrated and inclusive manner, as a means of enhancing their support for the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,[27] and calls for their active collaboration to ensure that the 2001 intergovernmental review will enhance the implementation of the Global Programme of Action;

28. *Calls upon* United Nations agencies and programmes identified in General Assembly resolution 51/189 of 16 December 1996 to fulfil their roles in support of the Global Programme of Action and to provide information to Governments for their consideration at the 2001 intergovernmental review of the Global Programme of Action and to the Secretary-General for his annual report on oceans and the law of the sea on their action in this regard and on other steps which could be taken to protect the marine environment;

29. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Bank, as part of the preparations for the 2001 review of the Global Programme of Action, to consult with Governments, representatives of the private sector, financial institutions and bilateral and multilateral donor agencies to review their involvement in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action and to consider, inter alia, what international support is needed to help overcome the obstacles to the preparation and implementation of national and local action programmes and how they can participate actively in partnership-building with developing countries for the transfer of the requisite technology in accordance with the Convention and taking into account the relevant parts of Agenda 21, capacity-building and funding for the implementation of the Global Programme of Action;

30. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring that adverse impacts on the marine environment are taken into account when assessing and evaluating development programmes and projects;

31. *Urges* States to take all practicable steps, in accordance with the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, to prevent pollution of the marine environment from ships and, in accordance with the 1972 Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter,[39] to prevent pollution of the marine environment by dumping, and further calls upon States to become parties to and to implement the 1996 Protocol to the 1972 Convention;[40]

32. *Stresses* the need to consider as a matter of priority the issues of marine science and technology and to focus on how best to implement the many obligations of States and competent international organizations under Parts XIII and XIV of the Convention, and calls upon States to adopt, as appropriate and in accordance with international law, the necessary national laws, regulations, policies and procedures to promote and facilitate marine scientific research and cooperation;

33. *Urges* all States, in particular coastal States, in affected regions to take all necessary and appropriate measures to prevent and combat incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea, including through regional cooperation, and to investigate or cooperate in the investigation of such incidents wherever they occur and bring the alleged perpetrators to justice, in accordance with international law;

34. *Calls upon* States, in this context, to cooperate fully with the International Maritime Organization, including by submitting reports on incidents to the organization and by

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[38] See resolution 55/8.

[39] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1046, No. 15749.

[40] IMO/LC.2/Circ.380.

implementing its guidelines on preventing attacks of piracy and armed robbery;

35. *Urges* States to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and its Protocol,[41] and to ensure its effective implementation;

36. *Notes* the continued work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization towards a convention for the implementation of the provisions of the Convention, relating to the protection of the underwater cultural heritage, and re-emphasizes the importance of ensuring that the instrument to be elaborated is in full conformity with the relevant provisions of the Convention;

37. *Invites* Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute to the further development of the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship Programme on the Law of the Sea established by the General Assembly in resolution 35/116 of 10 December 1980 and to support the training activities under the TRAIN-SEA-COAST Programme of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat;

38. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual comprehensive report on oceans and the law of the sea,[25] prepared by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, as well as for the other activities of the Division, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the mandate set forth in resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities entrusted to him in the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, and to ensure that appropriate resources are made available to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea for the performance of such responsibilities under the approved budget for the Organization;

40. *Reaffirms* its decision to undertake an annual review and evaluation of the implementation of the Convention and other developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, taking into account resolution 54/33 establishing the consultative process to facilitate the review of developments in ocean affairs, and requests the Secretary-General to convene the second meeting of the Consultative Process in New York from 7 to 11 May 2001;

41. *Recommends* that, in its deliberations on the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea at its second meeting, the Consultative Process organize its discussions around the following areas:

(*a*) Marine science and the development and transfer of marine technology as mutually agreed, including capacity-building in this regard;

(*b*) Coordination and cooperation in combating piracy and armed robbery at sea;

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure more effective collaboration and coordination between the relevant parts of the Secretariat of the United Nations and the United Nations as a whole, in particular in ensuring the effectiveness, transparency and responsiveness of the Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal Areas of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, and also requests the Secretary-General to include in his report suggestions on initiatives to improve coordination, in accordance with resolution 54/33, and encourages all United Nations bodies to help this process by drawing to the attention of the Secretariat and the Subcommittee those areas of their work which may, directly or indirectly, affect the work of other United Nations bodies;

43. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of heads of intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies and funds and programmes of the United Nations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, and the Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal Areas of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, drawing their attention to paragraphs of particular relevance to them, and underlines the importance of their input for the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea and of their participation in relevant meetings and processes;

44. *Invites* the competent international organizations, as well as funding institutions, to take specific account of the present resolution in their programmes and activities, and to contribute to the preparation of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a voluntary trust fund for the purpose of assisting developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing States, in attending the meetings of the Consultative Process, and invites States to contribute to this fund;

46. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including other developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, in connection with his annual comprehensive report on oceans and the law of the sea, and to provide the report in accordance with the modalities set out in resolution 54/33;

47. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

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[41] International Maritime Organization publication, Sales No. 462.88.12E.

## Annex I

## International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea Trust Fund

### Terms of reference

### Reasons for establishing the Trust Fund

1. Part XV of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention") provides for the settlement of disputes. In particular, article 287 specifies that States are free to choose one or more of the following means:

(*a*) The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea;

(*b*) The International Court of Justice;

(*c*) An arbitral tribunal;

(*d*) A special arbitral tribunal.

2. The Secretary-General already operates a Trust Fund for the International Court of Justice (see A/47/444). The Permanent Court of Arbitration has established a Financial Assistance Fund. The burden of costs should not be a factor for States, in making the choices under article 287, in deciding whether a dispute should be submitted to the Tribunal or in deciding upon the response to an application made to the Tribunal by others. For these reasons, it was decided to create a Trust Fund for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ("the Tribunal").

### Object and purpose of the Trust Fund

3. This Trust Fund ("the Fund") is established by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/7 and pursuant to the Agreement on Cooperation and Relationship between the United Nations and the Tribunal of 18 December 1997 (resolution 52/251, annex).

4. The purpose of the Fund is to provide financial assistance to States parties to the Convention for expenses incurred in connection with cases submitted, or to be submitted, to the Tribunal, including its Seabed Disputes Chamber and any other Chamber.

5. Assistance, which will be provided in accordance with the following terms and conditions, should only be provided in appropriate cases, principally those proceeding to the merits where jurisdiction is not an issue, but in exceptional circumstances may be provided for any phase of the proceedings.

### Contributions to the Fund

6. The Secretary-General invites States, intergovernmental organizations, national institutions, non-governmental organizations, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial contributions to the Fund.

### Application for assistance

7. An application for assistance from the Fund may be submitted by any State party to the Convention. The application should describe the nature of the case which is to be, or has been, brought by or against the State concerned and should provide an estimate of the costs for which financial assistance is requested. The application should contain a commitment to supply a final statement of account of the expenditures made from approved amounts, to be certified by an auditor acceptable to the United Nations.

### Panel of experts

8. The Secretary-General will establish a panel of experts, normally three persons of the highest professional standing, to make recommendations on each request. The task of each panel is to examine the application and to recommend to the Secretary-General the amount of the financial assistance to be given, the phase or phases of the proceedings in respect of which assistance is to be given and the types of expenses for which the assistance may be used.

### Granting of assistance

9. The Secretary-General will provide financial assistance from the Fund on the basis of the recommendations of the panel of experts. Payments will be made against receipts showing expenditures made in respect of approved costs. The latter may include:

(*a*) Preparing the application and the written pleadings;

(*b*) Professional fees of counsel and advocates for written and oral pleadings;

(*c*) Travel and expenses of legal representation in Hamburg during the various phases of a case;

(*d*) Execution of an Order of Judgment of the Tribunal, such as marking a boundary in the territorial sea.

### Application of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations

10. The Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations will apply to the administration of the Fund, including the procedures for audit.

### Reporting

11. An annual report on the activities of the Fund, including details of the contributions to and disbursements from the Fund, will be made to the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention.

### Implementing office

12. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs is the implementing office for this Fund and provides the services for the operation of the Fund.

### Offers of professional assistance

13. The implementing office also maintains a list of offers of professional assistance which may be made on a reduced fee basis by suitably qualified persons or bodies. If an applicant for assistance so requests, the implementing office will make the list of offers available to it for its consideration and decision; both financial and other assistance may be extended in respect of the same case or phase thereof.

### Revision

14. The General Assembly may revise the above if circumstances so require.

## Annex II

## Trust fund for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

### Terms of reference, guidelines and rules

### 1. Reasons for establishing the Trust Fund

1. Promoting and developing the marine scientific and technological capacity of developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island States, with a view to accelerating their social and economic development, is essential for the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 ("the Convention").

2. Coastal States intending to establish the outer limits of their continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baseline from which the breadth of their territorial sea is measured are required by article 76 of the Convention to submit the relevant data and information to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf ("the Commission"). In accordance with article 4 of annex II to the Convention, the particulars of such limits should be submitted to the Commission within ten years of the entry into force of the Convention for that State. For some States a submission should be made by 16 November 2004.

3. Developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, may face difficulties in complying with the time limit for submissions to the Commission. The Trust Fund is intended to assist these States in complying with the requirements relating to a submission to the Commission.

4. Under article 3, paragraph 1 (*b*), of annex II to the Convention, the Commission may provide scientific and technical advice, if requested by the coastal States concerned, during the preparation of the data to be submitted in accordance with article 76.

5. The Commission has adopted an outline for a five-day training course in order to facilitate the preparation of submissions in accordance with its Scientific and Technical Guidelines. The course is to be developed and delivered by interested Governments, international organizations and institutions which possess the necessary expertise and facilities. The Commission has likewise prepared a basic flow chart illustrating the preparation of submissions by coastal States.

6. The delineation of the continental shelf of a coastal State in accordance with article 76 and annex II to the Convention and annex II to the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea ("the Final Act") requires a programme for hydrographic and geoscientific surveying and mapping of the continental margin. The complexity and scale, and hence the costs involved, of such a programme will vary greatly from State to State according to the different geographical and geophysical circumstances. A first approach will always involve an assessment of the particular case at hand, followed by planning of appropriate projects for further data acquisition. Such projects require the contracting of high-level scientific/technical expertise and modern technology. By nature, the costs involved in such data acquisition projects are substantial. In addition to contributing to the Voluntary Fund herein established, the international community should make every effort to facilitate the full implementation of article 76 both financially and in any other possible way or capacity.

7. The initial assessment and the project planning itself will require qualifications in hydrography and geosciences in addition to a full understanding of the relevant provisions of the Convention. The final preparation of a submission to the Commission also requires high-level expertise in geosciences and hydrography.

8. The United Nations has extensive experience in providing assistance to countries for their industrial and economic development. This experience could be extended and utilized to assist States in implementing their rights and obligations under article 76 of the Convention.

### 2. Objects and purpose of the Trust Fund

9. The Secretary-General, under the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, establishes the present Trust Fund ("the Fund"). The object of the Fund is to enable developing States, in particular the least developed coastal countries and small island developing States, to make an initial assessment of their particular case, make appropriate plans for further investigations and data acquisition, and to prepare the final submission documents when the necessary data have been acquired.

10. The data acquisition campaigns themselves are not the object of the Fund.

11. An initial assessment of the nature of the continental shelf of a coastal State is often made in the form of a desktop study, which is a review and compilation of all existing data and information. Decisions for further action and/or planning for further data acquisition and mapping projects will be based on such a study.

12. The purpose of the Fund is to provide, in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations:

(*a*) Training to the appropriate technical and administrative staff of the coastal State in question, in order to enable them to perform initial desktop studies and project planning, or at least to take full part in these activities;

(*b*) Funds for such studies and planning activities, including funds for advisory/consultancy assistance if needed.

13. The preparation of the final submission documents will have to meet the requirements of article 76 and annex II to the Convention (and for some States, annex II to the Final Act) and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission. The training should take this into account and aim at enabling the State's personnel also to prepare most of these documents themselves. The preparation of the submission may induce costs that may be met by funds from the Fund (e.g. software and hardware equipment, technical assistance, etc.).

### 3. Contributions to the Fund

14. The Secretary-General invites States, intergovernmental organizations and agencies, national institutions, non-governmental organizations and international financial institutions as well as natural and juridical persons to make voluntary financial or other contributions to the Fund.

### 4. Application for financial assistance

15. An application for financial assistance from the Fund may be submitted by any developing State, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, who are Members of the United Nations and party to the Convention.

16. The purpose of the financial assistance applied for should be specified. Financial assistance may be sought for the following purposes:

(*a*) Training of technical and administrative staff;

(*b*) Desktop study or other means to make an initial assessment of the nature of the continental shelf and its limits;

(*c*) Working out of plans for the acquisition of necessary additional data and mapping projects;

(*d*) Preparation of final submission documents;

(*e*) Advisory/consultancy assistance related to the above points.

17. Detailed information under each of these purposes should be provided as follows:

(*a*) Training of technical and administrative staff:

The application shall be accompanied by:

(i) A specification of the goal of the training and which positions the trainees are intended to fill afterwards;

(ii) Information on the training institute(s) in question;

(iii) A copy of the training course(s);

(iv) The curriculum vitae of the trainees;

(v) An itemized statement of the estimated costs for which assistance is requested.

(*b*) Desktop study or other means to make an assessment of the nature of the continental shelf and its limits:

The application shall be accompanied by:

(i) A short description of the aim of the study;

(ii) An overview map of the area in question;

(iii) An overview, as complete as possible, of the database already available to the State;

(iv) An outline of how the work will be done and what tools are available (software and hardware);

(v) A specification of what will be done by the State's own staff, and what will be contracted for;

(vi) An itemized statement of the estimated costs for which assistance is requested.

(*c*) Working out of plans for the acquisition of necessary additional data and mapping projects:

The application shall be accompanied by:

(i) A summary of the status of knowledge of the continental margin, preferably based on a previous desktop study;

(ii) A preliminary assessment of the needs for specific additional data and/or information in accordance with the requirements of article 76 and annex II to the Convention, and annex II to the Final Act;

(iii) An itemized statement of the estimated costs for which assistance is requested.

(*d*) Preparation of final submission documents:

The application shall be accompanied by:

(i) A specification of what kind of assistance is needed;

(ii) An itemized statement of the estimated costs for which assistance is requested.

(*e*) Advisory/consultancy assistance related to the above points:

The application shall be accompanied by:

(i) A copy of the contract between the Government and the technical or scientific expert in question;

(ii) An itemized statement of the costs for which assistance is requested.

18. In all these cases the application shall be accompanied by an undertaking that the requesting State shall supply a final statement of account providing details of the expenditures made from the approved amounts, to be certified by an auditor acceptable to the United Nations.

### 5. Consideration of applications

19. Each request for financial assistance shall be considered by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs ("the Division"), which acts as the secretariat of the Commission.

20. The Division may engage an independent panel of experts of the highest moral standing to assist in the examination of applications on the basis of section 4 above and to recommend the amount of financial assistance to be given. However, no sitting Commission member should serve on this panel of experts. The Division shall prepare and circulate to Member States a list of prospective members of the panel of experts. Any member of the expert panel opposed by a Member State should not be included in the panel. The Division shall on an annual basis provide a list of the panel of experts as an annex to the annual report of the Secretary-General.

21. In considering the application, the Division shall be guided solely by the financial needs of the requesting developing State and availability of funds, with priority given to least developed countries and small island developing States, taking into account the imminence of pending deadlines.

22. Travel expenses and subsistence allowance are payable to independent experts engaged by the Division to consider applications.

### 6. Granting of assistance

23. The Secretary-General will provide financial assistance from the Fund on the basis of the evaluation and recommendations of the Division. Payments will be made against receipts evidencing actual expenditures for approved costs.

### 7. Application of article 5 of annex II to the Convention

24. Nationals of the coastal State making the submission who are members of the Commission and any Commission member who has assisted a coastal State by providing scientific and technical advice with respect to the delineation shall not be a member of the subcommission dealing with that submission but has the right to participate as a member in the proceedings of the Commission concerning the said submission. In an effort to promote transparency and to give full effect to article 5 of annex II to the Convention there should be full disclosure by Commission members, Trust Fund recipients and training sponsors to the Division of any pre-submission contacts.

### 8. Reporting requirements for full disclosure

25. Interested Governments, international organizations and institutions who provide any training for which any costs are reimbursed by this Fund are strongly encouraged to provide the complete list of participants to the Division.

26. Commission members who participate in any activities pursuant to this Fund shall disclose this information to the Division.

27. Upon submission to the Commission of its information on the limits of its continental shelf pursuant to article 76 of the Convention, a coastal State that has received assistance from this Fund shall disclose this information, including the involvement of any Commission members.

### 9. Application of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations

28. The Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations shall apply to the administration of the Fund. The Fund shall be subject to the auditing procedures provided therein.

### 10. Reporting to the General Assembly

29. An annual report on the activities of the Fund, including details of the contributions to and disbursements from the Fund, will be made to the General Assembly.

### 11. Implementing office

30. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs is the implementing office for the Fund and will provide the services required for the operation of the Fund.

### 12. Revision

31. The General Assembly may revise the above if circumstances so require.

## RESOLUTION 55/8

Adopted at the 44th plenary meeting, on 30 October 2000, by a recorded vote of 103 to none, with 44 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.11 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Tonga, United States of America

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* *In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia,

Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Nepal, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

## 55/8. Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 46/215 of 20 December 1991, 49/116 and 49/118 of 19 December 1994, 50/25 of 5 December 1995, 51/36 of 9 December 1996, 52/29 of 26 November 1997 and 53/33 of 24 November 1998, as well as other resolutions on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments,

*Welcoming* the Rome Declaration on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries adopted by the Ministerial Meeting on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in March 1999,

*Noting* that the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries sets out principles and global standards of behaviour for responsible practices to conserve, manage and develop fisheries, including guidelines for fishing on the high seas and in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, and on fishing gear selectivity and practices, with the aim of reducing by-catch and discards,

*Recognizing* that coordination and cooperation at the global, regional, subregional as well as national levels in the areas, inter alia, of data collection, information-sharing, capacity-building and training are crucial for the conservation, management and sustainable development of marine living resources,

*Noting* the conclusion of negotiations to establish new regional organizations and arrangements in several heretofore unmanaged fisheries, in particular the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South-east Atlantic Ocean, and highlighting that these agreements were concluded pursuant to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks,[42]

*Noting also* the adoption by the States members of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific of the Framework Agreement for the Conservation of Living Marine Resources in High Seas of the South-east Pacific,

*Recognizing* the importance of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks and the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas, and noting with concern that neither of these agreements has yet entered into force,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in February 1999 adopted international plans of action for the management of fishing capacity, for reducing the incidental catch of seabirds in longline fisheries and for the conservation and management of sharks,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,[43] and emphasizing the useful role that the report plays in bringing together information relating to the sustainable development of the world's marine living resources provided by States, relevant international organizations, regional and subregional fisheries organizations and non-governmental organizations,

*Noting with satisfaction* that, while significant work remains to be done, interested parties have made real progress towards sustainable fisheries management,

*Noting* that while there has been generally a marked decrease in the reporting of large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing activities in most regions of the world's oceans and seas, large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing remains a threat to marine living resources in some areas,[44]

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[42] A/CONF.164/37; see also A/50/550, annex I.

[43] A/55/386.

[44] Ibid., paras. 12-64.

*Expressing its continuing concern* that efforts should be made to ensure that the implementation of resolution 46/215 in some parts of the world does not result in the transfer to other parts of the world of drift-nets that contravene the resolution,

*Noting with concern* that unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas/illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing remains as one of the most severe problems currently affecting world fisheries and the sustainability of marine living resources, and noting also that unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas/illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has a detrimental impact on the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States,

*Noting* the significance of the work being undertaken under the aegis of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop a comprehensive international plan of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, involving consideration of the range of possibilities for action in accordance with international law, and acknowledging the work done by certain regional fisheries organizations,

*Welcoming* the efforts in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to address the causes of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, through a comprehensive and integrated approach which involves all relevant States and regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in the deterrence of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing which encourages all States to take measures, to the greatest extent possible, or to cooperate to ensure that their nationals, in accordance with article 117 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[45] and vessels flying their flag do not support or engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing,

*Welcoming also* the cooperation being undertaken with the International Labour Organization and other relevant international organizations in the joint Ad Hoc Working Group on combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization,

*Recognizing* the need for the International Maritime Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to address the issue of marine debris derived from land-based and ship-generated sources of pollution, including derelict fishing gear, which can cause mortality and habitat destruction of marine living resources,

*Expressing concern* at the significant level of by-catch and discards in several of the world's commercial fisheries, and recognizing that the development and use of selective, environmentally safe and cost-effective fishing gear and techniques will be important for reducing by-catch and discards,

*Expressing concern also* at the reports of continued loss of seabirds, particularly albatrosses, as a result of incidental mortality from longline fishing operations, and the loss of other marine species, including sharks and fin-fish species, as a result of incidental mortality, and noting the recent initiative to develop a convention for the protection of southern hemisphere albatrosses and petrels,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the marine living resources of the world's oceans and seas and the obligations of States to cooperate to this end, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[45] in particular the provisions on cooperation set out in part V and part VII, section 2, of the Convention regarding straddling stocks, highly migratory species, marine mammals, anadromous stocks and marine living resources of the high seas;

2. *Also reaffirms* the importance it attaches to compliance with its resolutions 46/215, 49/116, 49/118, 50/25, 52/29 and 53/33, and urges States and other entities to enforce fully the measures recommended in those resolutions;

3. *Encourages* all States to implement directly or, as appropriate, through the relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and regional and subregional fisheries organizations and arrangements, the international plans of action of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for reducing the incidental take of seabirds in longline fisheries, for the conservation and management of sharks and for the management of fishing capacity, since the state of progress in the implementation of all three plans will be reported to the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at the twenty-fourth session of the Committee, to be held from 26 February to 2 March 2001;

4. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations aimed at providing assistance to developing countries in upgrading their capabilities in monitoring, control and surveillance, through its Interregional Programme of Assistance to Developing Countries for the Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;

5. *Also takes note with satisfaction* of the activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme and the Global

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[45] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

Environment Facility, aimed at promoting the reduction of by-catch and discards in fisheries activities;

6. *Reiterates* the importance of continued or strengthened efforts by States directly or, as appropriate, through the relevant regional and subregional organizations, and by other international organizations, to make it a high priority to support, including through financial and/or technical assistance, with a particular emphasis on capacity-building, the efforts of developing States, in particular the least developed countries and the small island developing States, to achieve the goals and implement the actions called for in the present resolution, including to improve the monitoring and control of fishing activities and the enforcement of fishing regulations;

7. *Urges* States, relevant international organizations and regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have not done so to take action to reduce by-catch, fish discards and post-harvest losses, consistent with international law and relevant international instruments, including the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;

8. *Calls upon* States and other entities referred to in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks[42] that have not done so to ratify or accede to the Agreement and to consider applying it provisionally;

9. *Calls upon* States and other entities referred to in article 10, paragraph 1, of the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas that have not deposited instruments of acceptance of the Agreement to do so;

10. *Recalls* that Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,[46] calls upon States to take effective action, consistent with international law, to deter reflagging of vessels by their nationals as a means of avoiding compliance with applicable conservation and management measures for fishing vessels on the high seas;

11. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to take measures to deter reflagging of fishing vessels flying their flag to avoid compliance with applicable obligations and to ensure that fishing vessels entitled to fly their flag do not fish in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States unless duly authorized by the authorities of the States concerned and in accordance with the conditions set out in the authorization, and that they do not fish on the high seas in contravention of the applicable conservation and management measures;

12. *Urges* States to continue the development of an international plan of action on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as a matter of priority, so that its Committee on Fisheries can be in a position to adopt elements for inclusion in a comprehensive and effective plan of action at its twenty-fourth session;

13. *Appeals* to States and regional fisheries organizations, including regional fisheries management bodies and regional fisheries arrangements, to promote the application of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries within their areas of competence;

14. *Reaffirms* the rights and duties of coastal States to ensure proper conservation and management measures with respect to the living resources in zones under their national jurisdiction, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

15. *Invites* regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that all States having a real interest in the fisheries concerned may become members of such organizations or participate in such arrangements;

16. *Encourages* the International Maritime Organization and other relevant agencies, organizations and States to continue working constructively with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to combat unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas/illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

17. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue its cooperative arrangements with United Nations agencies on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and to report to the Secretary-General, for inclusion in his annual report on oceans and the law of the sea, on priorities for cooperation and coordination in this work;

18. *Affirms* the need to strengthen, where necessary, the international legal framework for intergovernmental cooperation in the management of fish stocks and in combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, in a manner consistent with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and taking into account the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and other relevant principles of international law;

19. *Also affirms* the central role that regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have in intergovernmental cooperation to assess marine living resources within their competence, to manage

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[46] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

their conservation and sustainable use and thus to promote food security and sustain the economic base of many States and communities, and further affirms that they also will play a key role in implementing applicable international law including, as appropriate, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Fish Stocks Agreement and the Compliance Agreement, and in promoting the application of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;

20. *Calls upon* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization, regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other appropriate intergovernmental organizations to take up, as a matter of priority, the issue of marine debris as it relates to fisheries and, where appropriate, to promote better coordination and help States to implement fully relevant international agreements, including annex V to and the Guidelines of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto;

21. *Invites* all relevant parts of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and multilateral and bilateral donor agencies to take into account the importance of marine science, including the importance of protecting the ecosystem, and the precautionary approach, with the aim of providing support to subregional and regional organizations and arrangements and their member States, for sustainable fisheries management and conservation, and notes that, for developing countries, capacity-building is essential for the sustainable development of marine living resources;

22. *Recommends* that the biennial conference of regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations consider measures to strengthen further the role of these organizations in all aspects of fisheries conservation and management;

23. *Also recommends* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations consider inviting the intergovernmental organizations relevant to its work to join the biennial conference of regional fisheries organizations;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, and to invite them to provide the Secretary-General with information relevant to the implementation of the present resolution;

25. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including the status and implementation of the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas, the implementation of the international plans of action for the management of fishing capacity, for reducing the incidental catch of seabirds in longline fisheries, and for the conservation and management of sharks, and efforts undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, taking into account the information provided by States, relevant specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements and other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", a sub-item entitled "Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas/illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments".

## RESOLUTION 55/9

Adopted at the 44th plenary meeting, on 30 October 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.17, sponsored by Malaysia

### 55/9. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 37/4 of 22 October 1982, 38/4 of 28 October 1983, 39/7 of 8 November 1984, 40/4 of 25 October 1985, 41/3 of 16 October 1986, 42/4 of 15 October 1987, 43/2 of 17 October 1988, 44/8 of 18 October 1989, 45/9 of 25 October 1990, 46/13 of 28 October 1991, 47/18 of 23 November 1992, 48/24 of 24 November 1993, 49/15 of 15 November 1994, 50/17 of 20 November 1995, 51/18 of 14 November 1996, 52/4 of 22 October 1997, 53/16 of 29 October 1998 and 54/7 of 25 October 1999,

*Recalling also* its resolution 3369 (XXX) of 10 October 1975, by which it decided to invite the Organization of the Islamic Conference to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and of its subsidiary organs in the capacity of observer,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference,[47]

*Taking into account* the desire of both organizations to continue to cooperate closely in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and technical fields and in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, fundamental human rights and economic and technical development,

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[47] A/55/368.

*Recalling* the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage the activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Noting* the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations, its funds and programmes and specialized agencies and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, its subsidiary organs and its specialized and affiliated institutions,

*Noting also* the encouraging progress made in the ten priority areas of cooperation between the two organizations, as well as in the identification of other areas of cooperation between them,

*Convinced* that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its organs and institutions contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Welcoming* the results of the general meeting of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions, held in Vienna from 11 to 13 July 2000,

*Noting with appreciation* the determination of both organizations to strengthen further the existing cooperation by developing specific proposals in the designated priority areas of cooperation, as well as in the political field,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[47]

2. *Takes note* of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the active participation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to continue to cooperate in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, fundamental human rights, social and economic development and technical cooperation;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to continue to strengthen cooperation between the two organizations in areas of common concern and to review the ways and means for enhancing the actual mechanisms of such cooperation;

6. *Welcomes with appreciation* the continuing cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the field of peacemaking and preventive diplomacy, and takes note of the close cooperation between the two organizations in continuing the search for a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict in Afghanistan;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts of the secretariats of the two organizations to strengthen information exchange, coordination and cooperation between them in areas of mutual interest in the political field and their ongoing consultations with a view to developing the modalities of such cooperation;

8. *Also welcomes* the periodic high-level meetings between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, as well as between senior secretariat officials of the two organizations, and encourages their participation in important meetings of the two organizations;

9. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their cooperation with the subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, particularly by negotiating cooperation agreements, and invites them to multiply the contacts and meetings of the focal points for cooperation in priority areas of interest to the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

10. *Urges* the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, especially the lead agencies, to provide increased technical and other forms of assistance to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions in order to enhance cooperation;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social and cultural fields;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the state of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the

United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference".

## RESOLUTION 55/10

Adopted at the 44th plenary meeting, on 30 October 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.18 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Palestine

### 55/10. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,[48]

*Recalling* article 3 of the Pact of the League of Arab States,[49] which entrusts the Council of the League with the function of determining the means whereby the League will collaborate with the international organizations which may be created in the future to guarantee peace and security and organize economic and social relations,

*Noting* the desire of both organizations to consolidate, develop and enhance further the ties existing between them in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, technical and administrative fields,

*Taking into account* the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[50] in particular section VII, concerning cooperation with regional arrangements and organizations, and the "Supplement to An Agenda for Peace",[51]

*Convinced* of the need for more efficient and coordinated utilization of available economic and financial resources in order to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

*Acknowledging* the need for closer cooperation between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in achieving the goals and objectives of the two organizations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[48]

2. *Commends* the continued efforts of the League of Arab States to promote multilateral cooperation among Arab States, and requests the United Nations system to continue to lend its support;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the follow-up action taken by him to implement the proposals adopted at the meetings between the representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, including the sectoral meeting on youth and employment held in Beirut, from 23 to 25 May 2000;

4. *Requests* the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States, within their respective fields of competence, to intensify further their cooperation for the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the strengthening of international peace and security, economic and social development, disarmament, decolonization, self-determination and the eradication of all forms of racism and racial discrimination;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in order to enhance their capacity to serve the mutual interests and objectives of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and administrative fields;

6. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system:

(*a*) To continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and among themselves, as well as with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in the follow-up of multilateral proposals aimed at strengthening and expanding cooperation in all fields between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

(*b*) To strengthen the capacity of the League of Arab States and of its institutions and specialized organizations to benefit from globalization and information technology and to meet the development challenges of the new millennium;

(*c*) To step up cooperation and coordination with the specialized organizations of the League of Arab States in the organization of seminars and training courses and in the preparation of studies;

(*d*) To maintain and increase contacts and improve the mechanism of consultation with the counterpart programmes, organizations and agencies concerned regarding projects and programmes in order to facilitate their implementation;

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[48] A/55/401.

[49] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 70, No. 241.

[50] A/47/277-S/24111.

[51] A/50/60-S/1995/1.

(*e*) To participate whenever possible with organizations and institutions of the League of Arab States in the execution and implementation of development projects in the Arab region;

(*f*) To inform the Secretary-General, not later than 30 June 2001, of the progress made in their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations and, in particular, of the follow-up action taken on the multilateral and bilateral proposals adopted at the previous meetings between the two organizations;

7. *Also calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to increase their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in the priority sectors of energy, rural development, desertification and green belts, training and vocational education, technology, environment and information and documentation;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, to encourage periodic consultation between representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States in order to review and strengthen coordination mechanisms with a view to accelerating implementation of, and follow-up action on, the multilateral projects, proposals and recommendations adopted at the meetings between the two organizations;

9. *Recommends* that the United Nations and all organizations of the United Nations system make the greatest possible use of Arab institutions and technical expertise in projects undertaken in the Arab region;

10. *Reaffirms* that, in order to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting between representatives of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States should be held once every two years and that joint inter-agency sectoral meetings should also be convened on a biennial basis to address priority areas of major importance to the development of the Arab States, on the basis of agreement between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

11. *Also reaffirms* the importance of holding the next general meeting on cooperation between the representatives of the secretariats of organizations of the United Nations system and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations during 2001;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States".

## RESOLUTION 55/11

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 31 October 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.14 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

### 55/11. Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations regarding the maintenance of international peace and security,

*Convinced* that inter-Korean dialogue and cooperation are essential for consolidating peace and security on the Korean peninsula and also contribute to peace and stability in the region and beyond, in conformity with the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter,

*Recognizing* that the historic summit meeting, held in Pyongyang from 13 to 15 June 2000, between the leaders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea and their joint declaration represent a major breakthrough in inter-Korean relations and in realizing eventual peaceful reunification,

*Commending* the positive developments on the Korean peninsula taking place in the wake of the inter-Korean summit,

*Recalling* the statement welcoming the inter-Korean summit and the follow-up measures made on 6 September 2000 by the Co-Chairpersons of the Millennium Summit of the United Nations,[52]

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[52] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 4th meeting (A/55/PV.4), and corrigendum.

1. *Welcomes and supports* the inter-Korean summit and the joint declaration adopted on 15 June 2000 by the two leaders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea;

2. *Encourages* the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea to continue to implement fully and in good faith the joint declaration and other agreements reached between the two sides, thereby consolidating peace on the Korean peninsula and laying a solid foundation for peaceful reunification;

3. *Invites* Member States to support and assist, as appropriate, the process of inter-Korean dialogue, reconciliation and reunification so that it may contribute to peace and security on the Korean peninsula and in the world as a whole.

## RESOLUTION 55/12

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 1 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.23 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Yemen

### 55/12. Admission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to membership in the United Nations

*The General Assembly*,

*Having received* the recommendation of the Security Council of 31 October 2000 that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia should be admitted to membership in the United Nations,[53]

*Having considered* the application for membership of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,[54]

*Decides* to admit the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to membership in the United Nations.

## RESOLUTION 55/13

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 3 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.13 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Zambia, Zimbabwe

### 55/13. Review of the problem of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in all its aspects

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/283 of 5 September 2000 and resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, entitled "United Nations Millennium Declaration", in particular paragraphs 19, 20 and 28 thereof, as well as other relevant resolutions, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/36 of 28 July 1999, as well as Security Council resolution 1308 (2000) of 17 July 2000,

*Recalling also* the relevant provisions of the final document adopted at its twenty-first special session on 2 July 1999 on key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[55] the final document adopted at its twenty-third special session on 10 June 2000 on further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[56] and the final document adopted at its twenty-fourth special session on 1 July 2000 on further initiatives for social development,[57]

*Taking note* of the statement of thirteen women Ministers for Foreign Affairs concerning the worldwide threat of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), issued on 12 September 2000[58] and the Ouagadougou Declaration adopted at the fifth Pan-African Conference of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, which was held at Ouagadougou from 21 to 25 September 2000,[59]

1. *Decides* to convene, as a matter of urgency, a special session of the General Assembly, from 25 to 27 June 2001, to review and address the problem of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) in all its aspects, as well as to secure a global commitment to

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[53] A/55/535.

[54] A/55/528-S/2000/1043, annex.

[55] Resolution S-21/2, annex.

[56] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[57] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[58] A/55/394, annex.

[59] A/55/480, annex.

enhancing coordination and the intensification of national, regional and international efforts to combat it in a comprehensive manner;

2. *Confirms* that the special session will be open for participation to all States Members of the United Nations and observers, in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly, and urges Member States and observers to ensure their representation at the special session at the highest political level;

3. *Decides* to invite States members of the specialized agencies that are not members of the United Nations to participate in the work of the special session in the capacity of observers;

4. *Also decides* that the special session shall be composed of plenary meetings, as well as interactive round-table meetings, the organization, number and themes of which will be finalized during the preparatory process, to discuss, inter alia, issues such as HIV/AIDS in Africa, international funding and cooperation, the social and economic impact of the epidemic, human rights and AIDS, including reduction of the stigma related to AIDS, the gender-specific impacts of AIDS, especially on women and girls, HIV/AIDS prevention, including development of microbicides, improved access to care and treatment including drugs, protection and care of children affected by AIDS, in particular orphans, scientific research and vaccine development, expanded public/private sector partnerships and the building and strengthening of national capacities to combat HIV/AIDS, including the development of national action plans and their implementation, with each interactive meeting to be held in concurrence with a plenary meeting;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the necessary administrative arrangements towards the convening of the special session;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make available all necessary documentation in a timely manner for the special session;

7. *Encourages* all entities of the United Nations system, including programmes, funds, the specialized agencies and the regional commissions, to be involved actively in the preparatory activities and to participate at the highest level in the special session, including through presentations on best practices and different experiences in addressing the problem of HIV/AIDS, obstacles encountered and possible strategies for overcoming them, as well as further initiatives, methods, practical activities and specific measures to strengthen national, regional and international efforts and cooperation, taking into account the different ways of addressing the problem of HIV/AIDS;

8. *Decides* to convene, within the framework of the preparatory process for the special session, open-ended informal consultations of the plenary, chaired by the President of the General Assembly, to undertake, as appropriate, preparations for the special session, including elaboration of a draft declaration of commitment and other relevant documents for consideration during the special session, to further address the modalities and other organizational matters of the special session, with a view to submitting proposals for final decision by the Assembly, and to organize other relevant activities to contribute to the preparations for the special session, and invites the President of the General Assembly to appoint, in consultation with Member States, two facilitators to assist in carrying out these consultations with the effective participation of all countries;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the support of the Joint United Nations Programme on the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), acting as the substantive secretariat of the special session, to provide substantive input to the preparatory process;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present, in a timely manner, in order to facilitate and focus the preparatory consultations, a comprehensive report describing both the status of the epidemic and the status and level of national, regional and international response and cooperation as well as other issues, including the developmental impact of the epidemic, its long-term social and economic manifestations, national achievements to date, best practices in prevention and care and identification of major gaps and challenges, taking into account all relevant information and inputs, including relevant findings from previous appropriate conferences;

11. *Encourages* regional bodies and organizations, as well as the regional commissions, to make available to the preparatory process and to the special session the outcomes of respective subregional, regional and global level initiatives addressing a range of HIV/AIDS issues;

12. *Recognizes* the importance of the contribution of civil society actors in the response to the epidemic at all levels, and in this regard underlines the need for the active involvement of civil society representatives in the preparatory process and the special session;

13. *Invites* to the special session and to the preparatory process activities, apart from the informal consultations of the General Assembly to which only Member States and observers are invited, in accordance with paragraph 14 below, non-governmental organizations which enjoy consultative status in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, or are members of the Programme Coordination Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, requests the Executive Director of the Joint Programme to prepare, not later than 15 February 2001, for consideration by Member States, on a non-objection basis during the preparatory process, for final decision by the Assembly, a list of other relevant civil society actors, in particular associations of people living with HIV/AIDS, non-governmental organizations and the business sector, including pharmaceutical companies, along with relevant background information to be made available to Member States, and invites those civil society actors to the special session and to the preparatory process activities for the special session, according to the modalities defined above;

14. *Invites*, in this context, the President of the General Assembly to make recommendations, for consideration by Member States during the preparatory process, for final decision by the Assembly as soon as possible, but not later than 2 March 2001, as to the form of the involvement of such civil society actors, in particular associations of people living with HIV/AIDS, non-governmental organizations and the business sector, including pharmaceutical companies, in the special session and, to the extent possible, in the preparatory process;

15. *Stresses* the importance of the full and active participation of all States, including the least developed countries, in the preparatory consultations in order to provide substantive input to the special session, invites Governments to make appropriate voluntary contributions to a trust fund to be established by the Secretary-General for that purpose, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to ensure mobilization of resources to the fund;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure an effective and coordinated system-wide response to preparations for the special session and to carry out, particularly in the most affected countries, in cooperation with the Joint Programme, a comprehensive public information programme to raise global HIV/AIDS awareness while also building broad international support for the special session and its goals;

17. *Decides* that the provisions contained in paragraphs 8, 12, 13 and 14 above will in no way create a precedent for other special sessions of the General Assembly;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the relevant specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations, international financial and trade institutions, other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other relevant civil society actors, as well as the business sector, including pharmaceutical companies;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Review of the problem of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in all its aspects".

## RESOLUTION 55/14

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 3 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.19, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

### 55/14. Amendment to rule 1 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997, by which it adopted the recommendations of the Open-ended High-level Working Group on the Strengthening of the United Nations System as contained in the annex to the resolution,

*Recalling in particular* paragraph 17 of the annex to resolution 51/241, in which it decided, inter alia, that the plenary meetings of the General Assembly should be formally opened every year on the first Tuesday following 1 September,

*Noting* that the Monday immediately preceding the first Tuesday following 1 September falls on a United Nations holiday at Headquarters,

*Mindful* that, for practical reasons, the closing of the regular sessions of the General Assembly should be on a Monday, which should not be a holiday, and the opening of the regular sessions should be on the following day, that is to say, on a Tuesday,

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/232 of 4 June 1998, 53/224 of 7 April 1999 and 53/239 of 8 June 1999, by which it took ad hoc decisions concerning the opening and/or closing dates of the fifty-second, fifty-third, fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth sessions of the General Assembly,

*Recalling also* paragraph 2 of resolution 52/232, in which it decided that the International Day of Peace would continue to be observed on the opening day of the regular sessions,

1. *Decides* to amend rule 1 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly to read: "The General Assembly shall meet every year in regular session commencing on the Tuesday following the second Monday in September";

2. *Also decides* that this amendment shall take effect as from 2001 and that, therefore, for that year, the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly shall close on Monday, 10 September 2001, and the fifty-sixth session of the Assembly shall open on Tuesday, 11 September 2001.

## RESOLUTION 55/15

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 3 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.21 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, United States of America, Venezuela

### 55/15. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/9 of 22 October 1998 relating to the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States,[60]

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[60] A/55/184.

*Recalling* that the purposes of the United Nations are, inter alia, to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends,

*Recalling also* that the Charter of the Organization of American States reaffirms these purposes and principles and provides that that organization is a regional agency under the terms of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 47/20 A of 24 November 1992, 47/20 B of 20 April 1993, 48/27 B of 8 July 1994, 49/5 of 21 October 1994, 49/27 B of 12 July 1995, 50/86 B of 3 April 1996, 51/4 of 24 October 1996 and 53/9 of 22 October 1998,

*Welcoming* the upcoming Summit of the Americas to be held in Quebec City, Canada, from 20 to 22 April 2001,

*Welcoming also* resolution AG/RES.1733 (XXX-O/00), adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States at its thirtieth regular session, by which it declared 2001 as the Inter-American Year of the Child and the Adolescent, and related efforts in the Americas to address emerging issues for children in the twenty-first century, during lead-up to the special session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States[60] and his efforts to strengthen that cooperation;

2. *Also takes note with satisfaction* of the exchanges of information between the United Nations and the Organization of American States in the context of the work of the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti and of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala;

3. *Recognizes* the work of the Organization of American States towards the promotion of democracy in the Americas, in the field of regional cooperation and in connection with its task of coordination with the United Nations;

4. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to strengthen cooperation with inter-American institutions in various fields, including hemispheric integration, statistics and women and development;

5. *Recommends* that a general meeting of representatives of the United Nations system and of the Organization of American States be held in 2001 for the continued review and appraisal of cooperation programmes and of other matters to be mutually decided upon;

6. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the exchange with the Organization of American States of information and substantive reports on the advancement in the status of women, on matters relating to youth and on the eradication of poverty;

7. *Emphasizes* that the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States should be undertaken in accordance with their respective mandates, scope and composition and be suited to each specific situation, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and *the* Organization of American States".

## RESOLUTIONS 55/16 A and B

### 55/16. Credentials of representatives to the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly

#### Resolution A

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 6 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of the first report of the Credentials Committee (A/55/537 and Corr.1)

#### A

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the first report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,[61]

*Approves* the first report of the Credentials Committee.

#### Resolution B

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of the second report of the Credentials Committee (A/55/537/Add.1)

#### B

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the second report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,[62]

*Approves* the second report of the Credentials Committee.

## RESOLUTION 55/17

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 7 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.24/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece,

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[61] A/55/537 and Corr.1.

[62] A/55/537/Add.1.

Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Portugal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

## 55/17. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 46/8 of 16 October 1991, 49/141 of 20 December 1994, 51/16 of 11 November 1996 and 53/17 of 29 October 1998,

*Noting with satisfaction* the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community,[63]

*Bearing in mind* the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations on the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action and other activities consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Bearing in mind also* the assistance given by the United Nations towards the maintenance of peace and security in the Caribbean region,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the first general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions and of the United Nations system was held in New York on 27 and 28 May 1997, and that the second general meeting was held in Nassau on 27 and 28 March 2000,

*Bearing in mind* that, in its resolution 54/225 of 22 December 1999, it recognized the importance of adopting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development,

*Bearing in mind also* that in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, heads of State and Government resolved to address the special needs of small island developing States by implementing the Barbados Programme of Action[64] and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly[65] rapidly and in full,

*Affirming* the need to strengthen the cooperation that already exists between entities of the United Nations system and the Caribbean Community in the areas of economic and social development, as well as of political and humanitarian affairs,

*Convinced* of the need for the coordinated utilization of available resources to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community,[63] as well as efforts to strengthen that cooperation;

2. *Welcomes* the signing on 27 May 1997 by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community of a cooperation agreement between the secretariats of the two organizations;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, to continue to assist in furthering the development and maintenance of peace and security within the Caribbean region;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to promote and expand cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community in order to increase the capacity of the two organizations to attain their objectives;

5. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community in order to initiate, maintain and increase consultations and programmes with the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions in the attainment of their objectives, with special attention to the areas and issues identified at the second general meeting, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General, as well as resolutions 54/225 and 55/2;

6. *Welcomes* the initiatives of Member States in assisting in the cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community;

7. *Recommends* that the third general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions and of the United Nations system be held in 2002 in New York in order to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the agreed areas and issues and to hold consultations on such additional measures and procedures as may be required to facilitate and strengthen cooperation between the two organizations;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community".

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[63] A/55/215.

[64] Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (*Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II).

[65] See resolution S-22/2.

## RESOLUTION 55/18

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 7 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.3 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Panama, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela, Palestine

### 55/18. Bethlehem 2000

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the fact that the Palestinian city of Bethlehem is the birthplace of Jesus Christ and one of the most historic and significant sites on earth,

*Noting* that the world is continuing to celebrate in Bethlehem, a city of peace, the onset of the new millennium in a global vision of hope for all peoples,

*Stressing again* the monumental importance of the event for the Palestinian people, for the peoples of the region and for the international community as a whole, as it comprises significant religious, historical and cultural dimensions,

*Aware* of the Bethlehem 2000 Project as a multifaceted undertaking for commemoration of the event, which began at Christmas, 1999, and will come to a close at Easter, 2001,

*Aware also* of the assistance needed with regard to the above-mentioned Project, and expressing appreciation for the steps already taken towards increasing the engagement and participation of the international community, including donor countries, and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, as well as the European Commission, religious institutions and others,

*Recalling* the convening of the Bethlehem 2000 International Conference in Rome, on 18 and 19 February 1999, and its impact on the promotion of the Bethlehem 2000 Project and the mobilization of public awareness in all regions in support of this endeavour,

*Welcoming* the participation in the Bethlehem celebrations of several heads of State and Government and many other eminent personalities, including religious leaders, and expressing appreciation for the Palestinian preparations for this event,

*Welcoming also* the historic Jubilee 2000 pilgrimage of His Holiness Pope John Paul II to the Holy Land, his landmark visit to the holy sites in Bethlehem and the important message delivered by the Pontiff at Manger Square,

*Expressing the need* for immediate change in the situation on the ground in the vicinity of Bethlehem, especially with regard to ensuring freedom of movement,

*Stressing the need* for ensuring free and unhindered access to the holy places in Bethlehem to the faithful of all religions and the citizens of all nationalities,

*Expressing the renewed hope* for a successful outcome of the Middle East peace process and the achievement of a final settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides, so that the millennium may be celebrated in an atmosphere of peace and reconciliation,

1. *Welcomes* this global and historic celebration in Bethlehem and the onset of the third millennium as a symbol of the shared hope for peace among all peoples of the world;

2. *Expresses support* for the Bethlehem 2000 Project, and commends the efforts undertaken by the Palestinian Authority in this regard;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the worldwide support for the Bethlehem 2000 Project, and calls for sustained assistance and engagement by the international community as a whole, including private sector participation, in ensuring the success of the Project and of this monumental commemoration;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize the pertinent organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to increase their efforts to ensure the successful completion of the Bethlehem 2000 Project;

5. *Decides* to conclude, at the current session, consideration by the General Assembly of the item entitled "Bethlehem 2000".

## RESOLUTION 55/19

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 8 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.20 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia

## 55/19. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/12 of 27 October 1999, in which it expressed the wish that the cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union be strengthened further,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[66] which takes stock of such cooperation over the last twelve months,

*Noting with appreciation* the resolutions adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and its activities during the past year in support of the United Nations, as well as the recommendation contained in the aforementioned report that the increasingly close and productive relationship between the two organizations be recognized through a new and formalized relationship between the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the General Assembly,

*Welcoming* the Conference of Presiding Officers of National Parliaments which was held at United Nations Headquarters from 30 August to 1 September 2000 and which concluded with the unanimous adoption of the Declaration entitled "The Parliamentary vision for international cooperation at the dawn of the third millennium",

*Recalling with satisfaction* the United Nations Millennium Declaration[67] in which Member States resolved to strengthen further cooperation between the United Nations and national parliaments through their world organization, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in various fields, including peace and security, economic and social development, international law and human rights and democracy and gender issues,

*Recalling* the unique inter-State character of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

1. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Inter-Parliamentary Union to provide for a greater parliamentary contribution and enhanced support to the United Nations, and calls for the cooperation between the two organizations to be consolidated further;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and with the Inter-Parliamentary Union, to explore ways in which a new and strengthened relationship may be established between the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs, and to report thereon to the Assembly by May 2001;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the various aspects of cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union".

## RESOLUTION 55/20

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 9 November 2000, by a recorded vote of 167 to 3, with 4 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.7, sponsored by Cuba

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

*Abstentions:* El Salvador, Latvia, Morocco, Nicaragua

## 55/20. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

*The General Assembly*,

*Determined* to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming*, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

*Recalling* the statements of the heads of State or Government at the Ibero-American Summits concerning the need to eliminate the unilateral application of economic and trade measures by one State against another that affect the free flow of international trade,

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[66] A/55/409.

[67] See resolution 55/2.

*Concerned* about the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations, such as that promulgated on 12 March 1996 known as the "Helms-Burton Act", the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation,

*Taking note* of declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums, bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of regulations of the kind referred to above,

*Recalling* its resolutions 47/19 of 24 November 1992, 48/16 of 3 November 1993, 49/9 of 26 October 1994, 50/10 of 2 November 1995, 51/17 of 12 November 1996, 52/10 of 5 November 1997, 53/4 of 14 October 1998 and 54/21 of 9 November 1999,

*Concerned* that, since the adoption of its resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10, 53/4 and 54/21, further measures of that nature aimed at strengthening and extending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba continue to be promulgated and applied, and concerned also about the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 54/21;[68]

2. *Reiterates its call* on all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which, inter alia, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;

3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the necessary steps to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

## RESOLUTION 55/21

Adopted at the 58th plenary meeting, on 10 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.28 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Australia, Bahamas, Cape Verde, Colombia, Cyprus, Estonia, Gabon, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mali, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Romania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

### 55/21. Global implications of the year 2000 date conversion problem of computers

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/233 of 26 June 1998, 53/86 of 7 December 1998 and 54/114 of 15 December 1999 on the global implications of the year 2000 date conversion problem of computers,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General on the evaluation of the outcome of the steps taken within the United Nations system and with Member States to resolve the year 2000 problem,[69]

*Recognizing* that the effective operation of Governments, companies and other organizations was threatened by the year 2000 date conversion problem of computers, or "millennium bug",

*Recognizing also* the serious impact that the year 2000 problem could have had in all countries whose economies are increasingly interdependent,

*Appreciating* the establishment of a trust fund by the World Bank to assist in the efforts to resolve the year 2000 problem and the voluntary contributions made to it by the Member States,

*Appreciating also* the efforts of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics of the Economic and Social Council in raising the level of awareness of the year 2000 problem,

*Noting* that, as a result of the concerted international effort, the "millennium bug" caused no serious destruction of critical services on a national, regional or global level,

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the efforts of all Member States to solve the year 2000 problem before the rollover date of 31 December 1999, including by working to ensure that the private sector was fully engaged in addressing the problem and by tackling it in those systems under their own control;

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[68] A/55/172 and Add.1.

[69] A/55/387.

2. *Commends* the unprecedented international cooperation which contributed to the successful outcome and the interest in providing mutual assistance so that all could succeed, created by the realization of the interdependence among nations;

3. *Also commends* the public-private partnerships that were forged and which showed that, faced with a threat that affected entire industries, private and public interest converged;

4. *Urges* the international community to draw lessons from the experience of the initiative to address the year 2000 problem in dealing with complex global technical problems.

## RESOLUTION 55/22

Adopted at the 58th plenary meeting, on 10 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.6/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Belgium, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Pakistan, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

### 55/22. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the charter establishing the Economic Community of Central African States, by which the Central African countries have agreed to work for the economic development of their subregion, to promote economic cooperation and to establish a Common Market of Central Africa,

*Welcoming* the establishment by the Secretary-General, at the initiative of the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States, of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa on 28 May 1992, pursuant to resolution 46/37 B of 6 December 1991, and recalling its subsequent resolutions on the programme of work of the Committee,

*Bearing in mind* the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa[70] and resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998) pertaining thereto, adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998 respectively,

*Noting* that, at the ninth regular session of the Economic Community of Central African States, held in Malabo on 24 June 1999, the heads of State and Government of the member States decided to resume the activities of the Community, inter alia, by providing it with sufficient financial and human resources to enable it to become a real tool for the integration of their economies and to foster the development of cooperation between their peoples, with the ultimate aim of making it one of the five pillars of the African Economic Community and of helping Central Africa to meet the challenges of globalization,

*Welcoming* the fact that, in their desire to instil a climate of peace and security and to strengthen democratic institutions and practice, together with respect for the rule of law and human rights in their subregion, the States of the Economic Community of Central African States have established the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa and have decided to set up an early warning mechanism in Central Africa as a tool for preventing armed conflicts, a subregional parliament and a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa to promote democratic values and experience and human rights,

*Bearing in mind* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[71] adopted on 8 September 2000 by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit of the United Nations, and especially chapter VII thereof,

*Aware* of the importance of the support of the United Nations system and the international community, which is essential to ensuring that the members of the Economic Community of Central African States are successful in promoting economic development and integration and in consolidating peace, democracy and human rights in their subregion,

1. *Recognizes* that the purposes and objectives of the Economic Community of Central African States are in conformity with the principles and ideals embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the appropriate steps to establish cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States;

3. *Welcomes* the support provided by the Secretary-General to the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States in strengthening confidence-building measures at the subregional level and promoting human rights, the rule of law and democratic institutions, in implementation of the programme of work of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue this support and, within the existing United Nations budget, extend it to all the fields to be covered in the framework of cooperation between the United Nations system and the Economic Community of Central African States, especially the reinforcement of the structures of the Community and the attainment of its objectives in favour of peace and security,

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[70] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[71] See resolution 55/2.

democracy and human rights, so as to facilitate the operation of the early warning mechanism in Central Africa as a tool for preventing armed conflicts and to establish a subregional parliament and a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa to promote democratic values and experience and human rights;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of appropriate coordination between the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and the Economic Community of Central African States;

6. *Urges* all Member States and the international community to contribute to the efforts of the Economic Community of Central African States to achieve economic integration and development, promote democracy and human rights and consolidate peace and security in Central Africa;

7. *Welcomes and calls* for the continuation of the efforts made by a number of States, notably in the form of multinational exercises, to enhance the peacekeeping capacities of the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States, so as to enable them to play a larger part in United Nations operations;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States".

## RESOLUTION 55/23

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 13 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.30 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Canada, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America

### 55/23. United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/22 of 4 November 1998 and 54/113 of 10 December 1999 entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations",

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, which, inter alia, call for collective effort to strengthen friendly relations among nations, remove threats to peace and foster international cooperation in resolving international issues of an economic, social, cultural and humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

*Noting* that civilizations are not confined to individual nation-States, but rather encompass different cultures within the same civilization, and reaffirming that civilizational achievements constitute the collective heritage of humankind, providing a source of inspiration and progress for humanity at large,

*Bearing in mind* the specificities of each civilization and the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,[72] which considers, inter alia, that tolerance is one of the fundamental values essential to international relations in the twenty-first century and should include the active promotion of a culture of peace and dialogue among civilizations, with human beings respecting one another, in all their diversity of belief, culture and language, neither fearing nor repressing differences within and between societies but cherishing them as a precious asset of humanity,

*Noting* that globalization brings greater interrelatedness among people and increased interaction among cultures and civilizations, and encouraged by the fact that the celebration of the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, at the beginning of the twenty-first century, will provide the opportunity to emphasize that globalization not only is an economic, financial and technological process which could offer great benefit, but also constitutes a profoundly human challenge that invites us to embrace the interdependence of humankind and its rich cultural diversity,

*Recognizing* the diverse civilizational achievements of humankind, crystallizing cultural pluralism and creative human diversity,

*Bearing in mind* the valuable contribution that dialogue among civilizations can make to an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

*Stressing* the need for the universal protection and promotion of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

*Underlining* the fact that tolerance and respect for diversity and universal promotion and protection of human rights are mutually supportive, and recognizing that tolerance and respect for diversity effectively promote and are supported by, inter alia, the empowerment of women,

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[72] Ibid.

*Emphasizing* the need to acknowledge and respect the richness of all civilizations, to seek common grounds among and within civilizations in order to address threats to global peace and common challenges to human values and achievements, taking into consideration, inter alia, cooperation, partnership and inclusion,

*Welcoming* the collective endeavour of the international community to enhance understanding through constructive dialogue among civilizations,

*Encouraged* by the positive reception of Governments, international organizations, civil society organizations and international public opinion to the proclamation of the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, and welcoming the initiatives undertaken by governmental and non-governmental actors to promote dialogue,

*Expressing its firm determination* to facilitate and promote dialogue among civilizations,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[73]

2. *Welcomes* the convening, at the level of heads of State, of a round table on dialogue among civilizations, organized by the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, held at United Nations Headquarters on 5 September 2000 and which further contributed to the promotion of dialogue among civilizations;

3. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and other relevant international and non-governmental organizations to continue and further intensify planning and organizing appropriate cultural, educational and social programmes to promote the concept of dialogue among civilizations, inter alia, through organizing conferences and seminars and disseminating information and scholarly material on the subject, and to inform the Secretary-General of their activities;

4. *Calls upon* Governments to encourage all members of society to take part in promoting dialogue among civilizations and provide them with an opportunity to make contributions to the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations;

5. *Encourages* all Governments to expand their educational curricula relative to the teaching of respect for various cultures and civilizations, human rights education, the teaching of languages, the history and philosophy of various civilizations as well as the exchange of knowledge, information and scholarships among Governments and civil society in order to promote a better understanding of all cultures and civilizations;

6. *Encourages* all Member States, regional and international organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations to continue to develop appropriate initiatives at all levels to promote dialogue in all fields with a view to fostering mutual recognition and understanding among and within civilizations;

7. *Notes with interest* the activities undertaken and proposals made by Member States, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and international and regional organizations, including the Organization of the Islamic Conference and non-governmental organizations, for the preparation of the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations;

8. *Decides* to devote two days of plenary meetings at the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, on 3 and 4 December 2001, to the consideration of the item, including consideration of any follow-up measures, and commemoration of the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, and encourages Member States and observers to be represented at the highest possible political level;

9. *Invites* all Governments, funding institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector to consider contributing to the Trust Fund established by the Secretary-General in 1999 to promote dialogue among civilizations;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support for strengthening the activities pertaining to dialogue among civilizations;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a substantive report on the prospect of dialogue among civilizations and the activities pertaining to the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations".

## RESOLUTION 55/24

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 14 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.31 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

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[73] A/55/492/Rev.1.

## 55/24. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 46/242 of 25 August 1992, 47/1 of 22 September 1992, 47/121 of 18 December 1992, 48/88 of 20 December 1993, 49/10 of 3 November 1994, 51/203 of 17 December 1996, 52/150 of 15 December 1997, 53/35 of 30 November 1998, 54/119 of 16 December 1999 and all relevant resolutions of the Security Council regarding the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina,

*Reaffirming its support* for the independence, sovereignty, legal continuity and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina, within its internationally recognized borders,

*Reaffirming its support also* for the equality of the three constituent peoples and others in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a united country, with two multi-ethnic entities,

*Welcoming* the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement"), signed in Paris on 14 December 1995,[74]

*Welcoming also* the accomplishments achieved in implementation of the Peace Agreement, including the stabilization of the security situation, major reconstruction, the acceleration of the return of refugees and internally displaced persons, including to minority areas, the establishment of the Brcko District and the strengthening of political pluralism,

*Welcoming further* the efforts for the respect, promotion and protection of human rights and the strengthening of the rule of law in all of Bosnia and Herzegovina and for the development of the common institutions that will ensure that Bosnia and Herzegovina functions as an integrated modern State, accountable to its citizens,

*Supporting* those institutions and organizations of Bosnia and Herzegovina that are engaged in the implementation of the Peace Agreement and the process of reconciliation and reintegration, and noting, however, the slow progress in the development of efficient common institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina,

*Concerned* by the continuing obstructions faced by refugees and displaced persons wishing to return to their pre-war homes, in particular in areas where they would be an ethnic minority, emphasizing the need for an unreserved commitment by all political authorities, including at the entity and local levels, also emphasizing the need for all parties and the relevant States and international organizations to create the conditions necessary to facilitate a secure and dignified return, particularly in urban areas such as Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Mostar, and stressing the need for a regional approach to the issue of refugees and displaced persons,

*Supporting fully* the efforts of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, stressing the importance and urgency of the work of the International Tribunal as an element of the process of reconciliation and as a factor contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the region as a whole, demanding that States and parties to the Peace Agreement meet their obligations to cooperate fully with the Tribunal, as required by Security Council resolutions 827 (1993) of 25 May 1993, 1022 (1995) of 22 November 1995 and 1207 (1998) of 17 November 1998, including with respect to surrendering persons sought by the Tribunal, and welcoming the efforts to secure compliance with the orders of the Tribunal, consistent with the Security Council mandate,

*Noting* improved cooperation between the International Tribunal and the States and entities in the region, as stated in the seventh annual report of the Tribunal,[75] also noting that a number of individuals named in public indictments still remain at large, calling upon all the States and entities in the region to continue to improve cooperation and to comply fully with their obligations, and welcoming the efforts of the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Commander of the multinational Stabilization Force in implementing the provisions of the Peace Agreement,

*Welcoming* the mutual recognition among all the successor States of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia within their internationally recognized borders, and stressing the importance of full normalization of relations among those States, including the unconditional establishment of diplomatic relations in accordance with the Peace Agreement and the settlement of all issues relating to the succession of the former Yugoslavia on the basis of the legal equality of all five successor States, in order to contribute to the achievement of lasting peace and stability in the area,

*Noting* the significant improvement of relations between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia following the elections held in Croatia in January 2000,

*Welcoming* the important political change following the recent elections in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and noting the significance of this change for the region as a whole,

*Welcoming also* the successful summit meeting of heads of State and Government to launch the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe in Sarajevo on 29 and 30 July 1999, and stressing that the Stability Pact offers a broad regional framework for further progress in Bosnia and Herzegovina,

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[74] A/50/790-S/1995/999.

[75] See A/55/273-S/2000/777.

*Noting* that democratization in the region will enhance the prospects for a lasting peace and help to guarantee full respect for human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the region,

*Stressing* the importance of full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for the success of the peace efforts for the region, and calling upon the Governments and authorities in the region, as well as the relevant international organizations, to facilitate such full respect,

*Concerned* about the plight of thousands of families of missing persons in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and supporting fully the efforts of the International Commission on Missing Persons to resolve the fate of the missing persons,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the early adoption of a permanent electoral law, consistent, inter alia, with the ruling of the Constitutional Court on the equality of the three constituent peoples throughout the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, calling upon the Parliamentary Assembly elected in November to adopt this law expeditiously, noting that such adoption is a prerequisite of membership of the Council of Europe, and reaffirming the importance of genuine democratic representation of all three constituent peoples in all common institutions,

*Stressing* the importance of faster integration of the countries of the region into the political and economic mainstream of Europe, on the basis of individual merits and achievements, also stressing in particular the positive impact that the early admission to the Council of Europe could have on Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region in search of sustainable economic and political stability, and noting the importance of Bosnia and Herzegovina establishing its place in Euro-Atlantic institutions,

*Noting* the positive impact of the five pledging conferences, held on 21 December 1995, 13 and April 1996, 25 July 1997, 8 and 9 May 1998 and 30 May 1999 and chaired by the World Bank and the European Union, on the peace process and reintegration of the country as well as the reconstruction effort, stressing the importance and urgency of providing the financial assistance and technical cooperation pledged for reconstruction efforts, and stressing the role of economic revitalization in the process of reconciliation, in the improvement of living conditions and in the maintenance of a durable peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the region,

*Stressing* that the provision of reconstruction aid and financial assistance is conditional upon the parties meeting their obligations under the Peace Agreement,

*Recognizing* the importance of demining for the normalization of life and for the return of refugees and internally displaced persons,

*Welcoming* the achievements, and encouraging further efforts at reducing the military assets in line with the Agreement on Subregional Arms Control,

*Noting with appreciation* that Bosnia and Herzegovina is beginning to participate in the peacekeeping operations of the United Nations,

*Welcoming* the important efforts of the European Union to promote reform and stability through its stabilization and association process, and recognizing the work of the European Union and other donors in providing humanitarian and economic assistance for reconstruction,

1. *Expresses its full support* for the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement"),[74] which constitute the key mechanism for the achievement of a durable and just peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, leading to stability and cooperation in the region and the reintegration of Bosnia and Herzegovina at all levels;

2. *Reaffirms its support* for the New York Declaration, adopted on 15 November 1999,[76] in which the Joint Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina agreed to important steps for moving forward the process of fully implementing the Peace Agreement, notes that the progress of its implementation has been slow, and urges the parties to take the additional steps necessary to comply with all of its aspects;

3. *Notes* the progress that has been made towards the implementation of the Peace Agreement, and reiterates its demands for the full, comprehensive and consistent implementation thereof;

4. *Supports fully* the efforts of the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina, in accordance with the Peace Agreement and subsequent Peace Implementation Council declarations, and calls upon all parties to cooperate fully and in good faith with him;

5. *Stresses* the importance for the peace process in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region as a whole of the activities related to the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe launched in Sarajevo, and urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to take concrete steps to play an active role in it;

6. *Welcomes* the Zagreb summit to be held on 24 November 2000;

7. *Notes* the progress achieved with the concept of "ownership" as presented by the High Representative,[77] also notes the continuing need for the High Representative to use fully the authority of his office to deal with obstructionists, and

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[76] S/1999/1179, annex.

[77] S/1999/1115.

stresses the need for the political leaders to assume more responsibility in the process of the implementation of the Peace Agreement;

8. *Recognizes* that the role of the international community remains essential, welcomes the readiness of the international community to continue its efforts towards a self-sustaining peace, and recalls that the responsibility for consolidating peace and security primarily lies with the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

9. *Welcomes* the ruling of the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the equality of all three constituent peoples throughout the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, urges the entity parliaments and cantonal assemblies to implement it accordingly, and also urges the Constitutional Court to rule further on the status of those other than the three constituent peoples;

10. *Also welcomes* the vital contribution of the multinational Stabilization Force in providing a secure environment for the implementation of civilian aspects of the Peace Agreement, calls for the fullest cooperation by all parties in this regard, expresses its full support for the efforts of the United Nations International Police Task Force in carrying out its mandate, and commends its efforts in the establishment of the rule of law in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

11. *Underlines* the fact that the assistance provided by the international community remains strictly conditional upon compliance with the Peace Agreement and subsequent obligations, including in particular cooperation with the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 and facilitation of the return of refugees and displaced persons;

12. *Insists* upon the need to surrender all indictees to the International Tribunal for trial, notes that the Tribunal has the authority to address individual responsibility for the perpetration of the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and other serious violations of international humanitarian law in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and demands that all the parties fulfil their obligations to hand over to the Tribunal all indicted persons in territories under their control and otherwise to comply fully with the orders of the Tribunal and to cooperate with the work of the Tribunal, including with exhumations and other investigative acts, in accordance with article 29 of the statute of the Tribunal, with all relevant Security Council resolutions and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Peace Agreement, in particular the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

13. *Welcomes* the support given by Member States so far, and urges Member States, taking into account the orders and requests of the International Tribunal, to offer the Tribunal their full support, including financial support, in order to ensure the achievement of the purpose of the Tribunal, and to carry out their obligations under the statute of the Tribunal and all relevant Security Council resolutions;

14. *Reaffirms once again* the right of refugees and displaced persons to return voluntarily to their homes of origin in secure and dignified conditions in accordance with the Peace Agreement, in particular annex 7 thereof, and the realization of the same in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and host countries, calls upon all parties to improve substantially their cooperation with the international community at the State, entity and local levels, in order to establish immediately the conditions necessary for the return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes and for the freedom of movement and communication of all the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, encourages the relevant international organizations to enhance the conditions to facilitate both spontaneous and organized return, in accordance with relevant provisions of the Peace Agreement, in particular the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and welcomes continued and new efforts by the United Nations agencies, the European Union, bilateral and other donors and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to establish and implement projects designed to facilitate the accelerated voluntary and orderly return of refugees and displaced persons to all regions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including projects that would help to create a safe and secure environment with increased economic opportunity;

15. *Encourages* the acceleration of the peaceful, orderly and phased return of refugees and displaced persons, including in areas where they would be the ethnic minority, strongly condemns all acts of intimidation, violence and killings, including those acts designed to discourage the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons, and demands that such acts be investigated and prosecuted;

16. *Welcomes* the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations,[78] and takes note of the recommendations stemming from and relevant to the report of the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 53/35 on the fall of Srebrenica;[79]

17. *Reaffirms* the previous conclusions of the Peace Implementation Council on the importance of reform of the media in Bosnia and Herzegovina, reiterates its support for the decision of the High Representative of 30 July 1999 on the restructuring of the public broadcasting system in Bosnia and Herzegovina, notes that its implementation remains behind schedule, and calls upon the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to implement that decision in full;

18. *Stresses* the importance of establishing, strengthening and expanding throughout all of Bosnia and

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[78] See A/55/305-S/2000/809.

[79] A/54/549.

Herzegovina free and pluralistic media, deplores any action that seeks to intimidate or restrict the freedom of the media, and condemns violent acts of intimidation against journalists;

19. *Reaffirms once again its support* for the principle that all statements and commitments made under duress, particularly those regarding land and property, are wholly null and void, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Peace Agreement, and in that regard supports the effective engagement of the Commission for Real Property Claims of Displaced Persons and Refugees, and calls upon all sides to implement the property laws imposed on 27 October 1999, in particular by evicting illegal occupants from the homes of returning refugees, and to ensure respect for individual rights to return and the establishment of the rule of law;

20. *Emphasizes* the importance of economic revitalization and reconstruction for the successful consolidation of the peace process in Bosnia and Herzegovina, recognizes the important contribution of the international community in this regard, and invites it to continue its efforts;

21. *Notes* that corruption and the lack of transparency seriously hamper the economic development of Bosnia and Herzegovina, emphasizes the importance of combating corruption, welcomes the important contribution made in this regard by the Customs and Fiscal Assistance Office, and expresses its full support for the efforts of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its local bodies and of others that are supportive in this regard;

22. *Supports* the efforts by the High Representative and the Commander of the multinational Stabilization Force, in accordance with the Peace Agreement and subsequent Peace Implementation Council declarations, to weaken the continued political and economic influence of remaining parallel nationalist structures obstructing the peace implementation;

23. *Stresses* the need for a more comprehensive approach to implementing economic reforms, and underlines the fact that a self-sustainable, market-oriented economy operating in a single economic space, expeditious and transparent privatization, improved banking and capital markets, reformed financial systems, the provision of adequate social protection and the adoption by both entities of a law on pension reforms that meet sound economic standards are crucial for achieving lasting peace and stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

24. *Welcomes* the proclamation of the Brcko District and the appointment of an interim government and District Assembly, expresses its support for implementation of the final arbitration award in accordance with the Peace Agreement, and stresses that the obligation to cooperate fully with the Supervisor for Brcko is an essential obligation for both of the entities;

25. *Also welcomes* the Mostar Document adopted on 12 July 2000 by the representatives of the city of Mostar and its six city municipalities under the auspices of the European Union, and calls for its implementation;

26. *Notes* that the pledged reduction of 15 per cent in the military assets of each entity was achieved in 1999, urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to fulfil their commitment to a further 15 per cent reduction in 2000 in the areas of military budgets, personnel, equipment and structure, and encourages the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to redefine their defence policies with particular reference to ensuring that the size and structure of the military is affordable, that it is consistent with the legitimate security needs of Bosnia and Herzegovina and contributes to regional security;

27. *Stresses* the need for timely information about the level of cooperation and compliance with the International Tribunal and its orders, the status and programme for the return of refugees and displaced persons to and within Bosnia and Herzegovina and the status and implementation of the Agreement on Subregional Arms Control;

28. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Missing Persons Institute on 15 August 2000 in Sarajevo by the International Commission on Missing Persons, and supports the programmes put in place to resolve the continuing problem of missing persons within five to seven years;

29. *Also welcomes* the efforts of international regional organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations, including through the Board of Donors, and the Slovenian International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and invites Member States to continue to support the mine-action activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

30. *Commends* the efforts of the international community, including the Council of Europe, the European Union, the European Community Monitoring Mission, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Monetary Fund, the multinational Stabilization Force, non-governmental organizations, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Peace Implementation Council and the World Bank, in their roles in the implementation of the Peace Agreement;

31. *Commends*, in particular, the efforts of the International Tribunal, the Office of the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Office of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations International Police Task Force, the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the United

Nations Development Programme and the other United Nations agencies in the peace process, and encourages their further engagement in the peace process in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

32. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina".

## RESOLUTION 55/25

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 15 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (A/55/383)

### 55/25. United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998, in which it decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc committee for the purpose of elaborating a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and of discussing the elaboration, as appropriate, of international instruments addressing trafficking in women and children, combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea,

*Recalling also* its resolution 54/126 of 17 December 1999, in which it requested the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to continue its work, in accordance with resolutions 53/111 and 53/114 of 9 December 1998, and to intensify that work in order to complete it in 2000,

*Recalling further* its resolution 54/129 of 17 December 1999, in which it accepted with appreciation the offer of the Government of Italy to host a high-level political signing conference in Palermo for the purpose of signing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention) and the protocols thereto, and requested the Secretary-General to schedule the conference for a period of up to one week before the end of the Millennium Assembly in 2000,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Government of Poland for submitting to it at its fifty-first session a first draft United Nations convention against transnational organized crime[80] and for hosting the meeting of the inter-sessional open-ended intergovernmental group of experts, established pursuant to resolution 52/85 of 12 December 1997, on the elaboration of a preliminary draft of a possible comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime, held in Warsaw from 2 to 6 February 1998,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Government of Argentina for hosting the informal preparatory meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee, held in Buenos Aires from 31 August to 4 September 1998,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Government of Thailand for hosting the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Seminar on Building Capacities for Fighting Transnational Organized Crime, held in Bangkok on 20 and 21 March 2000,

*Deeply concerned* by the negative economic and social implications related to organized criminal activities, and convinced of the urgent need to strengthen cooperation to prevent and combat such activities more effectively at the national, regional and international levels,

*Noting with deep concern* the growing links between transnational organized crime and terrorist crimes, taking into account the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

*Determined* to deny safe havens to those who engage in transnational organized crime by prosecuting their crimes wherever they occur and by cooperating at the international level,

*Strongly convinced* that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime will constitute an effective tool and the necessary legal framework for international cooperation in combating, inter alia, such criminal activities as money-laundering, corruption, illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild flora and fauna, offences against cultural heritage and the growing links between transnational organized crime and terrorist crimes,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[81] which carried out its work at the headquarters of the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention in Vienna, and commends the Ad Hoc Committee for its work;

2. *Adopts* the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime annexed to the present resolution, and opens them for signature at the High-level

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[80] A/C.3/51/7, annex.

[81] A/AC.254/34.

Political Signing Conference to be held in Palermo, Italy, from 12 to 15 December 2000 in accordance with resolution 54/129;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report on the High-level Political Signing Conference to be held in Palermo in accordance with resolution 54/129;

4. *Notes* that the Ad Hoc Committee has not yet completed its work on the draft Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

5. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to continue its work in relation to this draft Protocol, in accordance with resolutions 53/111, 53/114 and 54/126, and to finalize such work as soon as possible;

6. *Calls upon* all States to recognize the links between transnational organized criminal activities and acts of terrorism, taking into account the relevant General Assembly resolutions, and to apply the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in combating all forms of criminal activity, as provided therein;

7. *Recommends* that the Ad Hoc Committee established by the General Assembly in its resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996, which is beginning its deliberations with a view to developing a comprehensive convention on international terrorism, pursuant to resolution 54/110 of 9 December 1999, should take into consideration the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

8. *Urges* all States and regional economic organizations to sign and ratify the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto as soon as possible in order to ensure the speedy entry into force of the Convention and the protocols thereto;

9. *Decides* that, until the Conference of the Parties to the Convention established pursuant to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime decides otherwise, the account referred to in article 30 of the Convention will be operated within the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, and encourages Member States to begin making adequate voluntary contributions to the above-mentioned account for the provision to developing countries and countries with economies in transition of the technical assistance that they might require for implementation of the Convention and the protocols thereto, including for the preparatory measures needed for that implementation;

10. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime will complete its tasks arising from the elaboration of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime by holding a meeting well before the convening of the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in order to prepare the draft text of the rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties and other rules and mechanisms described in article 32 of the Convention, which will be communicated to the Conference of the Parties at its first session for consideration and action;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to designate the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention to serve as the secretariat for the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in accordance with article 33 of the Convention;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention with the resources necessary to enable it to promote in an effective manner the expeditious entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and to discharge the functions of secretariat of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and to support the Ad Hoc Committee in its work pursuant to paragraph 10 above.

## Annex I

## United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

### *Article 1*
### *Statement of purpose*

The purpose of this Convention is to promote cooperation to prevent and combat transnational organized crime more effectively.

### *Article 2*
### *Use of terms*

For the purposes of this Convention:

(*a*) "Organized criminal group" shall mean a structured group of three or more persons, existing for a period of time and acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes or offences established in accordance with this Convention, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit;

(*b*) "Serious crime" shall mean conduct constituting an offence punishable by a maximum deprivation of liberty of at least four years or a more serious penalty;

(*c*) "Structured group" shall mean a group that is not randomly formed for the immediate commission of an offence and that does not need to have formally defined roles for its members, continuity of its membership or a developed structure;

(*d*) "Property" shall mean assets of every kind, whether corporeal or incorporeal, movable or immovable, tangible or intangible, and legal documents or instruments evidencing title to, or interest in, such assets;

(*e*) "Proceeds of crime" shall mean any property derived from or obtained, directly or indirectly, through the commission of an offence;

(*f*) "Freezing" or "seizure" shall mean temporarily prohibiting the transfer, conversion, disposition or movement of property or temporarily assuming custody or control of property on the basis of an order issued by a court or other competent authority;

(*g*) "Confiscation", which includes forfeiture where applicable, shall mean the permanent deprivation of property by order of a court or other competent authority;

(*h*) "Predicate offence" shall mean any offence as a result of which proceeds have been generated that may become the subject of an offence as defined in article 6 of this Convention;

(*i*) "Controlled delivery" shall mean the technique of allowing illicit or suspect consignments to pass out of, through or into the territory of one or more States, with the knowledge and under the supervision of their competent authorities, with a view to the investigation of an offence and the identification of persons involved in the commission of the offence;

(*j*) "Regional economic integration organization" shall mean an organization constituted by sovereign States of a given region, to which its member States have transferred competence in respect of matters governed by this Convention and which has been duly authorized, in accordance with its internal procedures, to sign, ratify, accept, approve or accede to it; references to "States Parties" under this Convention shall apply to such organizations within the limits of their competence.

### *Article 3*
### *Scope of application*

1. This Convention shall apply, except as otherwise stated herein, to the prevention, investigation and prosecution of:

(*a*) The offences established in accordance with articles 5, 6, 8 and 23 of this Convention; and

(*b*) Serious crime as defined in article 2 of this Convention;

where the offence is transnational in nature and involves an organized criminal group.

2. For the purpose of paragraph 1 of this article, an offence is transnational in nature if:

(*a*) It is committed in more than one State;

(*b*) It is committed in one State but a substantial part of its preparation, planning, direction or control takes place in another State;

(*c*) It is committed in one State but involves an organized criminal group that engages in criminal activities in more than one State; or

(*d*) It is committed in one State but has substantial effects in another State.

### *Article 4*
### *Protection of sovereignty*

1. States Parties shall carry out their obligations under this Convention in a manner consistent with the principles of sovereign equality and territorial integrity of States and that of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other States.

2. Nothing in this Convention entitles a State Party to undertake in the territory of another State the exercise of jurisdiction and performance of functions that are reserved exclusively for the authorities of that other State by its domestic law.

### *Article 5*
### *Criminalization of participation in an organized criminal group*

1. Each State Party shall adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences, when committed intentionally:

(*a*) Either or both of the following as criminal offences distinct from those involving the attempt or completion of the criminal activity:

(i) Agreeing with one or more other persons to commit a serious crime for a purpose relating directly or indirectly to the obtaining of a financial or other material benefit and, where required by domestic law, involving an act undertaken by one of the participants in furtherance of the agreement or involving an organized criminal group;

(ii) Conduct by a person who, with knowledge of either the aim and general criminal activity of an organized criminal group or its intention to commit the crimes in question, takes an active part in:

a. Criminal activities of the organized criminal group;

b. Other activities of the organized criminal group in the knowledge that his or her participation will contribute to the achievement of the above-described criminal aim;

(*b*) Organizing, directing, aiding, abetting, facilitating or counselling the commission of serious crime involving an organized criminal group.

2. The knowledge, intent, aim, purpose or agreement referred to in paragraph 1 of this article may be inferred from objective factual circumstances.

3. States Parties whose domestic law requires involvement of an organized criminal group for purposes of the offences established in accordance with paragraph 1 (*a*) (i) of this article shall ensure that their domestic law covers all serious crimes involving organized criminal groups. Such States Parties, as well as States Parties whose domestic law requires an act in furtherance of the agreement for purposes of the offences established in accordance with paragraph 1 (*a*) (i) of this article, shall so inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the time of their signature or of deposit of their instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Convention.

### *Article 6*
### *Criminalization of the laundering of proceeds of crime*

1. Each State Party shall adopt, in accordance with fundamental principles of its domestic law, such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences, when committed intentionally:

(*a*) (i) The conversion or transfer of property, knowing that such property is the proceeds of crime, for the purpose of concealing or disguising the illicit origin of the property or of helping any person who is involved in the commission of the predicate offence to evade the legal consequences of his or her action;

(ii) The concealment or disguise of the true nature, source, location, disposition, movement or ownership of or rights with respect to property, knowing that such property is the proceeds of crime;

(*b*) Subject to the basic concepts of its legal system:

(i) The acquisition, possession or use of property, knowing, at the time of receipt, that such property is the proceeds of crime;

(ii) Participation in, association with or conspiracy to commit, attempts to commit and aiding, abetting, facilitating and counselling the commission of any of the offences established in accordance with this article.

2. For purposes of implementing or applying paragraph 1 of this article:

(*a*) Each State Party shall seek to apply paragraph 1 of this article to the widest range of predicate offences;

(*b*) Each State Party shall include as predicate offences all serious crime as defined in article 2 of this Convention and the offences established in accordance with articles 5, 8 and 23 of this Convention. In the case of States Parties whose legislation sets out a list of specific predicate offences, they shall, at a minimum, include in such list a comprehensive range of offences associated with organized criminal groups;

(*c*) For the purposes of subparagraph (*b*), predicate offences shall include offences committed both within and outside the jurisdiction of the State Party in question. However, offences committed outside the jurisdiction of a State Party shall constitute predicate offences only when the relevant conduct is a criminal offence under the domestic law of the State where it is committed and would be a criminal offence under the domestic law of the State Party implementing or applying this article had it been committed there;

(*d*) Each State Party shall furnish copies of its laws that give effect to this article and of any subsequent changes to such laws or a description thereof to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

(*e*) If required by fundamental principles of the domestic law of a State Party, it may be provided that the offences set forth in paragraph 1 of this article do not apply to the persons who committed the predicate offence;

(*f*) Knowledge, intent or purpose required as an element of an offence set forth in paragraph 1 of this article may be inferred from objective factual circumstances.

### *Article 7*
### *Measures to combat money-laundering*

1. Each State Party:

(*a*) Shall institute a comprehensive domestic regulatory and supervisory regime for banks and non-bank financial institutions and, where appropriate, other bodies particularly susceptible to money-laundering, within its competence, in order to deter and detect all forms of money-laundering, which regime shall emphasize requirements for customer identification, record-keeping and the reporting of suspicious transactions;

(*b*) Shall, without prejudice to articles 18 and 27 of this Convention, ensure that administrative, regulatory, law enforcement and other authorities dedicated to combating money-laundering (including, where appropriate under domestic law, judicial authorities) have the ability to cooperate and exchange information at the national and international levels within the conditions prescribed by its domestic law and, to that end, shall consider the establishment of a financial intelligence unit to serve as a national centre for the collection, analysis and dissemination of information regarding potential money-laundering.

2. States Parties shall consider implementing feasible measures to detect and monitor the movement of cash and appropriate negotiable instruments across their borders, subject to safeguards to ensure proper use of information and without impeding in any way the movement of legitimate capital. Such measures may include a requirement that individuals and

businesses report the cross-border transfer of substantial quantities of cash and appropriate negotiable instruments.

3. In establishing a domestic regulatory and supervisory regime under the terms of this article, and without prejudice to any other article of this Convention, States Parties are called upon to use as a guideline the relevant initiatives of regional, interregional and multilateral organizations against money-laundering.

4. States Parties shall endeavour to develop and promote global, regional, subregional and bilateral cooperation among judicial, law enforcement and financial regulatory authorities in order to combat money-laundering.

*Article 8*
*Criminalization of corruption*

1. Each State Party shall adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences, when committed intentionally:

(*a*) The promise, offering or giving to a public official, directly or indirectly, of an undue advantage, for the official himself or herself or another person or entity, in order that the official act or refrain from acting in the exercise of his or her official duties;

(*b*) The solicitation or acceptance by a public official, directly or indirectly, of an undue advantage, for the official himself or herself or another person or entity, in order that the official act or refrain from acting in the exercise of his or her official duties.

2. Each State Party shall consider adopting such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences conduct referred to in paragraph 1 of this article involving a foreign public official or international civil servant. Likewise, each State Party shall consider establishing as criminal offences other forms of corruption.

3. Each State Party shall also adopt such measures as may be necessary to establish as a criminal offence participation as an accomplice in an offence established in accordance with this article.

4. For the purposes of paragraph 1 of this article and article 9 of this Convention, "public official" shall mean a public official or a person who provides a public service as defined in the domestic law and as applied in the criminal law of the State Party in which the person in question performs that function.

*Article 9*
*Measures against corruption*

1. In addition to the measures set forth in article 8 of this Convention, each State Party shall, to the extent appropriate and consistent with its legal system, adopt legislative, administrative or other effective measures to promote integrity and to prevent, detect and punish the corruption of public officials.

2. Each State Party shall take measures to ensure effective action by its authorities in the prevention, detection and punishment of the corruption of public officials, including providing such authorities with adequate independence to deter the exertion of inappropriate influence on their actions.

*Article 10*
*Liability of legal persons*

1. Each State Party shall adopt such measures as may be necessary, consistent with its legal principles, to establish the liability of legal persons for participation in serious crimes involving an organized criminal group and for the offences established in accordance with articles 5, 6, 8 and 23 of this Convention.

2. Subject to the legal principles of the State Party, the liability of legal persons may be criminal, civil or administrative.

3. Such liability shall be without prejudice to the criminal liability of the natural persons who have committed the offences.

4. Each State Party shall, in particular, ensure that legal persons held liable in accordance with this article are subject to effective, proportionate and dissuasive criminal or non-criminal sanctions, including monetary sanctions.

*Article 11*
*Prosecution, adjudication and sanctions*

1. Each State Party shall make the commission of an offence established in accordance with articles 5, 6, 8 and 23 of this Convention liable to sanctions that take into account the gravity of that offence.

2. Each State Party shall endeavour to ensure that any discretionary legal powers under its domestic law relating to the prosecution of persons for offences covered by this Convention are exercised to maximize the effectiveness of law enforcement measures in respect of those offences and with due regard to the need to deter the commission of such offences.

3. In the case of offences established in accordance with articles 5, 6, 8 and 23 of this Convention, each State Party shall take appropriate measures, in accordance with its domestic law and with due regard to the rights of the defence, to seek to ensure that conditions imposed in connection with decisions on release pending trial or appeal take into consideration the need to ensure the presence of the defendant at subsequent criminal proceedings.

4. Each State Party shall ensure that its courts or other competent authorities bear in mind the grave nature of the

offences covered by this Convention when considering the eventuality of early release or parole of persons convicted of such offences.

5. Each State Party shall, where appropriate, establish under its domestic law a long statute of limitations period in which to commence proceedings for any offence covered by this Convention and a longer period where the alleged offender has evaded the administration of justice.

6. Nothing contained in this Convention shall affect the principle that the description of the offences established in accordance with this Convention and of the applicable legal defences or other legal principles controlling the lawfulness of conduct is reserved to the domestic law of a State Party and that such offences shall be prosecuted and punished in accordance with that law.

### *Article 12*
### *Confiscation and seizure*

1. States Parties shall adopt, to the greatest extent possible within their domestic legal systems, such measures as may be necessary to enable confiscation of:

(*a*) Proceeds of crime derived from offences covered by this Convention or property the value of which corresponds to that of such proceeds;

(*b*) Property, equipment or other instrumentalities used in or destined for use in offences covered by this Convention.

2. States Parties shall adopt such measures as may be necessary to enable the identification, tracing, freezing or seizure of any item referred to in paragraph 1 of this article for the purpose of eventual confiscation.

3. If proceeds of crime have been transformed or converted, in part or in full, into other property, such property shall be liable to the measures referred to in this article instead of the proceeds.

4. If proceeds of crime have been intermingled with property acquired from legitimate sources, such property shall, without prejudice to any powers relating to freezing or seizure, be liable to confiscation up to the assessed value of the intermingled proceeds.

5. Income or other benefits derived from proceeds of crime, from property into which proceeds of crime have been transformed or converted or from property with which proceeds of crime have been intermingled shall also be liable to the measures referred to in this article, in the same manner and to the same extent as proceeds of crime.

6. For the purposes of this article and article 13 of this Convention, each State Party shall empower its courts or other competent authorities to order that bank, financial or commercial records be made available or be seized. States Parties shall not decline to act under the provisions of this paragraph on the ground of bank secrecy.

7. States Parties may consider the possibility of requiring that an offender demonstrate the lawful origin of alleged proceeds of crime or other property liable to confiscation, to the extent that such a requirement is consistent with the principles of their domestic law and with the nature of the judicial and other proceedings.

8. The provisions of this article shall not be construed to prejudice the rights of bona fide third parties.

9. Nothing contained in this article shall affect the principle that the measures to which it refers shall be defined and implemented in accordance with and subject to the provisions of the domestic law of a State Party.

### *Article 13*
### *International cooperation for purposes of confiscation*

1. A State Party that has received a request from another State Party having jurisdiction over an offence covered by this Convention for confiscation of proceeds of crime, property, equipment or other instrumentalities referred to in article 12, paragraph 1, of this Convention situated in its territory shall, to the greatest extent possible within its domestic legal system:

(*a*) Submit the request to its competent authorities for the purpose of obtaining an order of confiscation and, if such an order is granted, give effect to it; or

(*b*) Submit to its competent authorities, with a view to giving effect to it to the extent requested, an order of confiscation issued by a court in the territory of the requesting State Party in accordance with article 12, paragraph 1, of this Convention insofar as it relates to proceeds of crime, property, equipment or other instrumentalities referred to in article 12, paragraph 1, situated in the territory of the requested State Party.

2. Following a request made by another State Party having jurisdiction over an offence covered by this Convention, the requested State Party shall take measures to identify, trace and freeze or seize proceeds of crime, property, equipment or other instrumentalities referred to in article 12, paragraph 1, of this Convention for the purpose of eventual confiscation to be ordered either by the requesting State Party or, pursuant to a request under paragraph 1 of this article, by the requested State Party.

3. The provisions of article 18 of this Convention are applicable, mutatis mutandis, to this article. In addition to the information specified in article 18, paragraph 15, requests made pursuant to this article shall contain:

(*a*) In the case of a request pertaining to paragraph 1 (*a*) of this article, a description of the property to be confiscated and a statement of the facts relied upon by the requesting State Party sufficient to enable the requested State Party to seek the order under its domestic law;

(*b*) In the case of a request pertaining to paragraph 1 (*b*) of this article, a legally admissible copy of an order of confiscation upon which the request is based issued by the requesting State Party, a statement of the facts and information as to the extent to which execution of the order is requested;

(*c*) In the case of a request pertaining to paragraph 2 of this article, a statement of the facts relied upon by the requesting State Party and a description of the actions requested.

4. The decisions or actions provided for in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article shall be taken by the requested State Party in accordance with and subject to the provisions of its domestic law and its procedural rules or any bilateral or multilateral treaty, agreement or arrangement to which it may be bound in relation to the requesting State Party.

5. Each State Party shall furnish copies of its laws and regulations that give effect to this article and of any subsequent changes to such laws and regulations or a description thereof to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

6. If a State Party elects to make the taking of the measures referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article conditional on the existence of a relevant treaty, that State Party shall consider this Convention the necessary and sufficient treaty basis.

7. Cooperation under this article may be refused by a State Party if the offence to which the request relates is not an offence covered by this Convention.

8. The provisions of this article shall not be construed to prejudice the rights of bona fide third parties.

9. States Parties shall consider concluding bilateral or multilateral treaties, agreements or arrangements to enhance the effectiveness of international cooperation undertaken pursuant to this article.

### *Article 14*
### *Disposal of confiscated proceeds of crime or property*

1. Proceeds of crime or property confiscated by a State Party pursuant to articles 12 or 13, paragraph 1, of this Convention shall be disposed of by that State Party in accordance with its domestic law and administrative procedures.

2. When acting on the request made by another State Party in accordance with article 13 of this Convention, States Parties shall, to the extent permitted by domestic law and if so requested, give priority consideration to returning the confiscated proceeds of crime or property to the requesting State Party so that it can give compensation to the victims of the crime or return such proceeds of crime or property to their legitimate owners.

3. When acting on the request made by another State Party in accordance with articles 12 and 13 of this Convention, a State Party may give special consideration to concluding agreements or arrangements on:

(*a*) Contributing the value of such proceeds of crime or property or funds derived from the sale of such proceeds of crime or property or a part thereof to the account designated in accordance with article 30, paragraph 2 (*c*), of this Convention and to intergovernmental bodies specializing in the fight against organized crime;

(*b*) Sharing with other States Parties, on a regular or case-by-case basis, such proceeds of crime or property, or funds derived from the sale of such proceeds of crime or property, in accordance with its domestic law or administrative procedures.

### *Article 15*
### *Jurisdiction*

1. Each State Party shall adopt such measures as may be necessary to establish its jurisdiction over the offences established in accordance with articles 5, 6, 8 and 23 of this Convention when:

(*a*) The offence is committed in the territory of that State Party; or

(*b*) The offence is committed on board a vessel that is flying the flag of that State Party or an aircraft that is registered under the laws of that State Party at the time that the offence is committed.

2. Subject to article 4 of this Convention, a State Party may also establish its jurisdiction over any such offence when:

(*a*) The offence is committed against a national of that State Party;

(*b*) The offence is committed by a national of that State Party or a stateless person who has his or her habitual residence in its territory; or

(*c*) The offence is:

(i) One of those established in accordance with article 5, paragraph 1, of this Convention and is committed outside its territory with a view to the commission of a serious crime within its territory;

(ii) One of those established in accordance with article 6, paragraph 1 (*b*) (*ii*), of this Convention and is committed outside its territory with a view to the commission of an offence established in accordance with article 6, paragraph 1 (*a*) (i) or (ii) or (*b*) (i), of this Convention within its territory.

3. For the purposes of article 16, paragraph 10, of this Convention, each State Party shall adopt such measures as may be necessary to establish its jurisdiction over the offences covered by this Convention when the alleged offender is present

in its territory and it does not extradite such person solely on the ground that he or she is one of its nationals.

4. Each State Party may also adopt such measures as may be necessary to establish its jurisdiction over the offences covered by this Convention when the alleged offender is present in its territory and it does not extradite him or her.

5. If a State Party exercising its jurisdiction under paragraph 1 or 2 of this article has been notified, or has otherwise learned, that one or more other States Parties are conducting an investigation, prosecution or judicial proceeding in respect of the same conduct, the competent authorities of those States Parties shall, as appropriate, consult one another with a view to coordinating their actions.

6. Without prejudice to norms of general international law, this Convention does not exclude the exercise of any criminal jurisdiction established by a State Party in accordance with its domestic law.

### *Article 16*
### *Extradition*

1. This article shall apply to the offences covered by this Convention or in cases where an offence referred to in article 3, paragraph 1 (*a*) or (*b*), involves an organized criminal group and the person who is the subject of the request for extradition is located in the territory of the requested State Party, provided that the offence for which extradition is sought is punishable under the domestic law of both the requesting State Party and the requested State Party.

2. If the request for extradition includes several separate serious crimes, some of which are not covered by this article, the requested State Party may apply this article also in respect of the latter offences.

3. Each of the offences to which this article applies shall be deemed to be included as an extraditable offence in any extradition treaty existing between States Parties. States Parties undertake to include such offences as extraditable offences in every extradition treaty to be concluded between them.

4. If a State Party that makes extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty receives a request for extradition from another State Party with which it has no extradition treaty, it may consider this Convention the legal basis for extradition in respect of any offence to which this article applies.

5. States Parties that make extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty shall:

(*a*) At the time of deposit of their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval of or accession to this Convention, inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations whether they will take this Convention as the legal basis for cooperation on extradition with other States Parties to this Convention; and

(*b*) If they do not take this Convention as the legal basis for cooperation on extradition, seek, where appropriate, to conclude treaties on extradition with other States Parties to this Convention in order to implement this article.

6. States Parties that do not make extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty shall recognize offences to which this article applies as extraditable offences between themselves.

7. Extradition shall be subject to the conditions provided for by the domestic law of the requested State Party or by applicable extradition treaties, including, inter alia, conditions in relation to the minimum penalty requirement for extradition and the grounds upon which the requested State Party may refuse extradition.

8. States Parties shall, subject to their domestic law, endeavour to expedite extradition procedures and to simplify evidentiary requirements relating thereto in respect of any offence to which this article applies.

9. Subject to the provisions of its domestic law and its extradition treaties, the requested State Party may, upon being satisfied that the circumstances so warrant and are urgent and at the request of the requesting State Party, take a person whose extradition is sought and who is present in its territory into custody or take other appropriate measures to ensure his or her presence at extradition proceedings.

10. A State Party in whose territory an alleged offender is found, if it does not extradite such person in respect of an offence to which this article applies solely on the ground that he or she is one of its nationals, shall, at the request of the State Party seeking extradition, be obliged to submit the case without undue delay to its competent authorities for the purpose of prosecution. Those authorities shall take their decision and conduct their proceedings in the same manner as in the case of any other offence of a grave nature under the domestic law of that State Party. The States Parties concerned shall cooperate with each other, in particular on procedural and evidentiary aspects, to ensure the efficiency of such prosecution.

11. Whenever a State Party is permitted under its domestic law to extradite or otherwise surrender one of its nationals only upon the condition that the person will be returned to that State Party to serve the sentence imposed as a result of the trial or proceedings for which the extradition or surrender of the person was sought and that State Party and the State Party seeking the extradition of the person agree with this option and other terms that they may deem appropriate, such conditional extradition or surrender shall be sufficient to discharge the obligation set forth in paragraph 10 of this article.

12. If extradition, sought for purposes of enforcing a sentence, is refused because the person sought is a national of the requested State Party, the requested Party shall, if its domestic law so permits and in conformity with the requirements of such law, upon application of the requesting Party, consider the enforcement of the sentence that has been

imposed under the domestic law of the requesting Party or the remainder thereof.

13. Any person regarding whom proceedings are being carried out in connection with any of the offences to which this article applies shall be guaranteed fair treatment at all stages of the proceedings, including enjoyment of all the rights and guarantees provided by the domestic law of the State Party in the territory of which that person is present.

14. Nothing in this Convention shall be interpreted as imposing an obligation to extradite if the requested State Party has substantial grounds for believing that the request has been made for the purpose of prosecuting or punishing a person on account of that person's sex, race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin or political opinions or that compliance with the request would cause prejudice to that person's position for any one of these reasons.

15. States Parties may not refuse a request for extradition on the sole ground that the offence is also considered to involve fiscal matters.

16. Before refusing extradition, the requested State Party shall, where appropriate, consult with the requesting State Party to provide it with ample opportunity to present its opinions and to provide information relevant to its allegation.

17. States Parties shall seek to conclude bilateral and multilateral agreements or arrangements to carry out or to enhance the effectiveness of extradition.

### *Article 17*
### *Transfer of sentenced persons*

States Parties may consider entering into bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements on the transfer to their territory of persons sentenced to imprisonment or other forms of deprivation of liberty for offences covered by this Convention, in order that they may complete their sentences there.

### *Article 18*
### *Mutual legal assistance*

1. States Parties shall afford one another the widest measure of mutual legal assistance in investigations, prosecutions and judicial proceedings in relation to the offences covered by this Convention as provided for in article 3 and shall reciprocally extend to one another similar assistance where the requesting State Party has reasonable grounds to suspect that the offence referred to in article 3, paragraph 1 (*a*) or (*b*), is transnational in nature, including that victims, witnesses, proceeds, instrumentalities or evidence of such offences are located in the requested State Party and that the offence involves an organized criminal group.

2. Mutual legal assistance shall be afforded to the fullest extent possible under relevant laws, treaties, agreements and arrangements of the requested State Party with respect to investigations, prosecutions and judicial proceedings in relation to the offences for which a legal person may be held liable in accordance with article 10 of this Convention in the requesting State Party.

3. Mutual legal assistance to be afforded in accordance with this article may be requested for any of the following purposes:

(*a*) Taking evidence or statements from persons;

(*b*) Effecting service of judicial documents;

(*c*) Executing searches and seizures, and freezing;

(*d*) Examining objects and sites;

(*e*) Providing information, evidentiary items and expert evaluations;

(*f*) Providing originals or certified copies of relevant documents and records, including government, bank, financial, corporate or business records;

(*g*) Identifying or tracing proceeds of crime, property, instrumentalities or other things for evidentiary purposes;

(*h*) Facilitating the voluntary appearance of persons in the requesting State Party;

(*i*) Any other type of assistance that is not contrary to the domestic law of the requested State Party.

4. Without prejudice to domestic law, the competent authorities of a State Party may, without prior request, transmit information relating to criminal matters to a competent authority in another State Party where they believe that such information could assist the authority in undertaking or successfully concluding inquiries and criminal proceedings or could result in a request formulated by the latter State Party pursuant to this Convention.

5. The transmission of information pursuant to paragraph 4 of this article shall be without prejudice to inquiries and criminal proceedings in the State of the competent authorities providing the information. The competent authorities receiving the information shall comply with a request that said information remain confidential, even temporarily, or with restrictions on its use. However, this shall not prevent the receiving State Party from disclosing in its proceedings information that is exculpatory to an accused person. In such a case, the receiving State Party shall notify the transmitting State Party prior to the disclosure and, if so requested, consult with the transmitting State Party. If, in an exceptional case, advance notice is not possible, the receiving State Party shall inform the transmitting State Party of the disclosure without delay.

6. The provisions of this article shall not affect the obligations under any other treaty, bilateral or multilateral, that

governs or will govern, in whole or in part, mutual legal assistance.

7. Paragraphs 9 to 29 of this article shall apply to requests made pursuant to this article if the States Parties in question are not bound by a treaty of mutual legal assistance. If those States Parties are bound by such a treaty, the corresponding provisions of that treaty shall apply unless the States Parties agree to apply paragraphs 9 to 29 of this article in lieu thereof. States Parties are strongly encouraged to apply these paragraphs if they facilitate cooperation.

8. States Parties shall not decline to render mutual legal assistance pursuant to this article on the ground of bank secrecy.

9. States Parties may decline to render mutual legal assistance pursuant to this article on the ground of absence of dual criminality. However, the requested State Party may, when it deems appropriate, provide assistance, to the extent it decides at its discretion, irrespective of whether the conduct would constitute an offence under the domestic law of the requested State Party.

10. A person who is being detained or is serving a sentence in the territory of one State Party whose presence in another State Party is requested for purposes of identification, testimony or otherwise providing assistance in obtaining evidence for investigations, prosecutions or judicial proceedings in relation to offences covered by this Convention may be transferred if the following conditions are met:

(*a*) The person freely gives his or her informed consent;

(*b*) The competent authorities of both States Parties agree, subject to such conditions as those States Parties may deem appropriate.

11. For the purposes of paragraph 10 of this article:

(*a*) The State Party to which the person is transferred shall have the authority and obligation to keep the person transferred in custody, unless otherwise requested or authorized by the State Party from which the person was transferred;

(*b*) The State Party to which the person is transferred shall without delay implement its obligation to return the person to the custody of the State Party from which the person was transferred as agreed beforehand, or as otherwise agreed, by the competent authorities of both States Parties;

(*c*) The State Party to which the person is transferred shall not require the State Party from which the person was transferred to initiate extradition proceedings for the return of the person;

(*d*) The person transferred shall receive credit for service of the sentence being served in the State from which he or she was transferred for time spent in the custody of the State Party to which he or she was transferred.

12. Unless the State Party from which a person is to be transferred in accordance with paragraphs 10 and 11 of this article so agrees, that person, whatever his or her nationality, shall not be prosecuted, detained, punished or subjected to any other restriction of his or her personal liberty in the territory of the State to which that person is transferred in respect of acts, omissions or convictions prior to his or her departure from the territory of the State from which he or she was transferred.

13. Each State Party shall designate a central authority that shall have the responsibility and power to receive requests for mutual legal assistance and either to execute them or to transmit them to the competent authorities for execution. Where a State Party has a special region or territory with a separate system of mutual legal assistance, it may designate a distinct central authority that shall have the same function for that region or territory. Central authorities shall ensure the speedy and proper execution or transmission of the requests received. Where the central authority transmits the request to a competent authority for execution, it shall encourage the speedy and proper execution of the request by the competent authority. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall be notified of the central authority designated for this purpose at the time each State Party deposits its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Convention. Requests for mutual legal assistance and any communication related thereto shall be transmitted to the central authorities designated by the States Parties. This requirement shall be without prejudice to the right of a State Party to require that such requests and communications be addressed to it through diplomatic channels and, in urgent circumstances, where the States Parties agree, through the International Criminal Police Organization, if possible.

14. Requests shall be made in writing or, where possible, by any means capable of producing a written record, in a language acceptable to the requested State Party, under conditions allowing that State Party to establish authenticity. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall be notified of the language or languages acceptable to each State Party at the time it deposits its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Convention. In urgent circumstances and where agreed by the States Parties, requests may be made orally, but shall be confirmed in writing forthwith.

15. A request for mutual legal assistance shall contain:

(*a*) The identity of the authority making the request;

(*b*) The subject matter and nature of the investigation, prosecution or judicial proceeding to which the request relates and the name and functions of the authority conducting the investigation, prosecution or judicial proceeding;

(*c*) A summary of the relevant facts, except in relation to requests for the purpose of service of judicial documents;

(*d*) A description of the assistance sought and details of any particular procedure that the requesting State Party wishes to be followed;

(*e*) Where possible, the identity, location and nationality of any person concerned; and

(*f*) The purpose for which the evidence, information or action is sought.

16. The requested State Party may request additional information when it appears necessary for the execution of the request in accordance with its domestic law or when it can facilitate such execution.

17. A request shall be executed in accordance with the domestic law of the requested State Party and, to the extent not contrary to the domestic law of the requested State Party and where possible, in accordance with the procedures specified in the request.

18. Wherever possible and consistent with fundamental principles of domestic law, when an individual is in the territory of a State Party and has to be heard as a witness or expert by the judicial authorities of another State Party, the first State Party may, at the request of the other, permit the hearing to take place by video conference if it is not possible or desirable for the individual in question to appear in person in the territory of the requesting State Party. States Parties may agree that the hearing shall be conducted by a judicial authority of the requesting State Party and attended by a judicial authority of the requested State Party.

19. The requesting State Party shall not transmit or use information or evidence furnished by the requested State Party for investigations, prosecutions or judicial proceedings other than those stated in the request without the prior consent of the requested State Party. Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent the requesting State Party from disclosing in its proceedings information or evidence that is exculpatory to an accused person. In the latter case, the requesting State Party shall notify the requested State Party prior to the disclosure and, if so requested, consult with the requested State Party. If, in an exceptional case, advance notice is not possible, the requesting State Party shall inform the requested State Party of the disclosure without delay.

20. The requesting State Party may require that the requested State Party keep confidential the fact and substance of the request, except to the extent necessary to execute the request. If the requested State Party cannot comply with the requirement of confidentiality, it shall promptly inform the requesting State Party.

21. Mutual legal assistance may be refused:

(*a*) If the request is not made in conformity with the provisions of this article;

(*b*) If the requested State Party considers that execution of the request is likely to prejudice its sovereignty, security, *ordre public* or other essential interests;

(*c*) If the authorities of the requested State Party would be prohibited by its domestic law from carrying out the action requested with regard to any similar offence, had it been subject to investigation, prosecution or judicial proceedings under their own jurisdiction;

(*d*) If it would be contrary to the legal system of the requested State Party relating to mutual legal assistance for the request to be granted.

22. States Parties may not refuse a request for mutual legal assistance on the sole ground that the offence is also considered to involve fiscal matters.

23. Reasons shall be given for any refusal of mutual legal assistance.

24. The requested State Party shall execute the request for mutual legal assistance as soon as possible and shall take as full account as possible of any deadlines suggested by the requesting State Party and for which reasons are given, preferably in the request. The requested State Party shall respond to reasonable requests by the requesting State Party on progress of its handling of the request. The requesting State Party shall promptly inform the requested State Party when the assistance sought is no longer required.

25. Mutual legal assistance may be postponed by the requested State Party on the ground that it interferes with an ongoing investigation, prosecution or judicial proceeding.

26. Before refusing a request pursuant to paragraph 21 of this article or postponing its execution pursuant to paragraph 25 of this article, the requested State Party shall consult with the requesting State Party to consider whether assistance may be granted subject to such terms and conditions as it deems necessary. If the requesting State Party accepts assistance subject to those conditions, it shall comply with the conditions.

27. Without prejudice to the application of paragraph 12 of this article, a witness, expert or other person who, at the request of the requesting State Party, consents to give evidence in a proceeding or to assist in an investigation, prosecution or judicial proceeding in the territory of the requesting State Party shall not be prosecuted, detained, punished or subjected to any other restriction of his or her personal liberty in that territory in respect of acts, omissions or convictions prior to his or her departure from the territory of the requested State Party. Such safe conduct shall cease when the witness, expert or other person having had, for a period of fifteen consecutive days or for any period agreed upon by the States Parties from the date on which he or she has been officially informed that his or her presence is no longer required by the judicial authorities, an opportunity of leaving, has nevertheless remained voluntarily in

the territory of the requesting State Party or, having left it, has returned of his or her own free will.

28. The ordinary costs of executing a request shall be borne by the requested State Party, unless otherwise agreed by the States Parties concerned. If expenses of a substantial or extraordinary nature are or will be required to fulfil the request, the States Parties shall consult to determine the terms and conditions under which the request will be executed, as well as the manner in which the costs shall be borne.

29. The requested State Party:

(*a*) Shall provide to the requesting State Party copies of government records, documents or information in its possession that under its domestic law are available to the general public;

(*b*) May, at its discretion, provide to the requesting State Party in whole, in part or subject to such conditions as it deems appropriate, copies of any government records, documents or information in its possession that under its domestic law are not available to the general public.

30. States Parties shall consider, as may be necessary, the possibility of concluding bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements that would serve the purposes of, give practical effect to or enhance the provisions of this article.

### *Article 19*
### *Joint investigations*

States Parties shall consider concluding bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements whereby, in relation to matters that are the subject of investigations, prosecutions or judicial proceedings in one or more States, the competent authorities concerned may establish joint investigative bodies. In the absence of such agreements or arrangements, joint investigations may be undertaken by agreement on a case-by-case basis. The States Parties involved shall ensure that the sovereignty of the State Party in whose territory such investigation is to take place is fully respected.

### *Article 20*
### *Special investigative techniques*

1. If permitted by the basic principles of its domestic legal system, each State Party shall, within its possibilities and under the conditions prescribed by its domestic law, take the necessary measures to allow for the appropriate use of controlled delivery and, where it deems appropriate, for the use of other special investigative techniques, such as electronic or other forms of surveillance and undercover operations, by its competent authorities in its territory for the purpose of effectively combating organized crime.

2. For the purpose of investigating the offences covered by this Convention, States Parties are encouraged to conclude, when necessary, appropriate bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements for using such special investigative techniques in the context of cooperation at the international level. Such agreements or arrangements shall be concluded and implemented in full compliance with the principle of sovereign equality of States and shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the terms of those agreements or arrangements.

3. In the absence of an agreement or arrangement as set forth in paragraph 2 of this article, decisions to use such special investigative techniques at the international level shall be made on a case-by-case basis and may, when necessary, take into consideration financial arrangements and understandings with respect to the exercise of jurisdiction by the States Parties concerned.

4. Decisions to use controlled delivery at the international level may, with the consent of the States Parties concerned, include methods such as intercepting and allowing the goods to continue intact or be removed or replaced in whole or in part.

### *Article 21*
### *Transfer of criminal proceedings*

States Parties shall consider the possibility of transferring to one another proceedings for the prosecution of an offence covered by this Convention in cases where such transfer is considered to be in the interests of the proper administration of justice, in particular in cases where several jurisdictions are involved, with a view to concentrating the prosecution.

### *Article 22*
### *Establishment of criminal record*

Each State Party may adopt such legislative or other measures as may be necessary to take into consideration, under such terms as and for the purpose that it deems appropriate, any previous conviction in another State of an alleged offender for the purpose of using such information in criminal proceedings relating to an offence covered by this Convention.

### *Article 23*
### *Criminalization of obstruction of justice*

Each State Party shall adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences, when committed intentionally:

(*a*) The use of physical force, threats or intimidation or the promise, offering or giving of an undue advantage to induce false testimony or to interfere in the giving of testimony or the production of evidence in a proceeding in relation to the commission of offences covered by this Convention;

(*b*) The use of physical force, threats or intimidation to interfere with the exercise of official duties by a justice or law enforcement official in relation to the commission of offences covered by this Convention. Nothing in this subparagraph shall prejudice the right of States Parties to have legislation that protects other categories of public officials.

### *Article 24*
### *Protection of witnesses*

1. Each State Party shall take appropriate measures within its means to provide effective protection from potential retaliation or intimidation for witnesses in criminal proceedings who give testimony concerning offences covered by this Convention and, as appropriate, for their relatives and other persons close to them.

2. The measures envisaged in paragraph 1 of this article may include, inter alia, without prejudice to the rights of the defendant, including the right to due process:

(*a*) Establishing procedures for the physical protection of such persons, such as, to the extent necessary and feasible, relocating them and permitting, where appropriate, non-disclosure or limitations on the disclosure of information concerning the identity and whereabouts of such persons;

(*b*) Providing evidentiary rules to permit witness testimony to be given in a manner that ensures the safety of the witness, such as permitting testimony to be given through the use of communications technology such as video links or other adequate means.

3. States Parties shall consider entering into agreements or arrangements with other States for the relocation of persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this article.

4. The provisions of this article shall also apply to victims insofar as they are witnesses.

### *Article 25*
### *Assistance to and protection of victims*

1. Each State Party shall take appropriate measures within its means to provide assistance and protection to victims of offences covered by this Convention, in particular in cases of threat of retaliation or intimidation.

2. Each State Party shall establish appropriate procedures to provide access to compensation and restitution for victims of offences covered by this Convention.

3. Each State Party shall, subject to its domestic law, enable views and concerns of victims to be presented and considered at appropriate stages of criminal proceedings against offenders in a manner not prejudicial to the rights of the defence.

### *Article 26*
### *Measures to enhance cooperation with law enforcement authorities*

1. Each State Party shall take appropriate measures to encourage persons who participate or who have participated in organized criminal groups:

(*a*) To supply information useful to competent authorities for investigative and evidentiary purposes on such matters as:

(i) The identity, nature, composition, structure, location or activities of organized criminal groups;

(ii) Links, including international links, with other organized criminal groups;

(iii) Offences that organized criminal groups have committed or may commit;

(*b*) To provide factual, concrete help to competent authorities that may contribute to depriving organized criminal groups of their resources or of the proceeds of crime.

2. Each State Party shall consider providing for the possibility, in appropriate cases, of mitigating punishment of an accused person who provides substantial cooperation in the investigation or prosecution of an offence covered by this Convention.

3. Each State Party shall consider providing for the possibility, in accordance with fundamental principles of its domestic law, of granting immunity from prosecution to a person who provides substantial cooperation in the investigation or prosecution of an offence covered by this Convention.

4. Protection of such persons shall be as provided for in article 24 of this Convention.

5. Where a person referred to in paragraph 1 of this article located in one State Party can provide substantial cooperation to the competent authorities of another State Party, the States Parties concerned may consider entering into agreements or arrangements, in accordance with their domestic law, concerning the potential provision by the other State Party of the treatment set forth in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article.

### *Article 27*
### *Law enforcement cooperation*

1. States Parties shall cooperate closely with one another, consistent with their respective domestic legal and administrative systems, to enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement action to combat the offences covered by this Convention. Each State Party shall, in particular, adopt effective measures:

(*a*) To enhance and, where necessary, to establish channels of communication between their competent authorities, agencies and services in order to facilitate the secure and rapid exchange of information concerning all aspects of the offences covered by this Convention, including, if the States Parties concerned deem it appropriate, links with other criminal activities;

(*b*) To cooperate with other States Parties in conducting inquiries with respect to offences covered by this Convention concerning:

(i) The identity, whereabouts and activities of persons suspected of involvement in such offences or the location of other persons concerned;

(ii) The movement of proceeds of crime or property derived from the commission of such offences;

(iii) The movement of property, equipment or other instrumentalities used or intended for use in the commission of such offences;

(*c*) To provide, when appropriate, necessary items or quantities of substances for analytical or investigative purposes;

(*d*) To facilitate effective coordination between their competent authorities, agencies and services and to promote the exchange of personnel and other experts, including, subject to bilateral agreements or arrangements between the States Parties concerned, the posting of liaison officers;

(*e*) To exchange information with other States Parties on specific means and methods used by organized criminal groups, including, where applicable, routes and conveyances and the use of false identities, altered or false documents or other means of concealing their activities;

(*f*) To exchange information and coordinate administrative and other measures taken as appropriate for the purpose of early identification of the offences covered by this Convention.

2. With a view to giving effect to this Convention, States Parties shall consider entering into bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements on direct cooperation between their law enforcement agencies and, where such agreements or arrangements already exist, amending them. In the absence of such agreements or arrangements between the States Parties concerned, the Parties may consider this Convention as the basis for mutual law enforcement cooperation in respect of the offences covered by this Convention. Whenever appropriate, States Parties shall make full use of agreements or arrangements, including international or regional organizations, to enhance the cooperation between their law enforcement agencies.

3. States Parties shall endeavour to cooperate within their means to respond to transnational organized crime committed through the use of modern technology.

*Article 28*
*Collection, exchange and analysis of information on the nature of organized crime*

1. Each State Party shall consider analysing, in consultation with the scientific and academic communities, trends in organized crime in its territory, the circumstances in which organized crime operates, as well as the professional groups and technologies involved.

2. States Parties shall consider developing and sharing analytical expertise concerning organized criminal activities with each other and through international and regional organizations. For that purpose, common definitions, standards and methodologies should be developed and applied as appropriate.

3. Each State Party shall consider monitoring its policies and actual measures to combat organized crime and making assessments of their effectiveness and efficiency.

*Article 29*
*Training and technical assistance*

1. Each State Party shall, to the extent necessary, initiate, develop or improve specific training programmes for its law enforcement personnel, including prosecutors, investigating magistrates and customs personnel, and other personnel charged with the prevention, detection and control of the offences covered by this Convention. Such programmes may include secondments and exchanges of staff. Such programmes shall deal, in particular and to the extent permitted by domestic law, with the following:

(*a*) Methods used in the prevention, detection and control of the offences covered by this Convention;

(*b*) Routes and techniques used by persons suspected of involvement in offences covered by this Convention, including in transit States, and appropriate countermeasures;

(*c*) Monitoring of the movement of contraband;

(*d*) Detection and monitoring of the movements of proceeds of crime, property, equipment or other instrumentalities and methods used for the transfer, concealment or disguise of such proceeds, property, equipment or other instrumentalities, as well as methods used in combating money-laundering and other financial crimes;

(*e*) Collection of evidence;

(*f*) Control techniques in free trade zones and free ports;

(*g*) Modern law enforcement equipment and techniques, including electronic surveillance, controlled deliveries and undercover operations;

(*h*) Methods used in combating transnational organized crime committed through the use of computers, telecommunications networks or other forms of modern technology; and

(*i*) Methods used in the protection of victims and witnesses.

2. States Parties shall assist one another in planning and implementing research and training programmes designed to share expertise in the areas referred to in paragraph 1 of this article and to that end shall also, when appropriate, use regional and international conferences and seminars to promote cooperation and to stimulate discussion on problems of mutual concern, including the special problems and needs of transit States.

3. States Parties shall promote training and technical assistance that will facilitate extradition and mutual legal assistance. Such training and technical assistance may include language training, secondments and exchanges between personnel in central authorities or agencies with relevant responsibilities.

4. In the case of existing bilateral and multilateral agreements or arrangements, States Parties shall strengthen, to the extent necessary, efforts to maximize operational and training activities within international and regional organizations and within other relevant bilateral and multilateral agreements or arrangements.

### *Article 30*
### *Other measures: implementation of the Convention through economic development and technical assistance*

1. States Parties shall take measures conducive to the optimal implementation of this Convention to the extent possible, through international cooperation, taking into account the negative effects of organized crime on society in general, in particular on sustainable development.

2. States Parties shall make concrete efforts to the extent possible and in coordination with each other, as well as with international and regional organizations:

(*a*) To enhance their cooperation at various levels with developing countries, with a view to strengthening the capacity of the latter to prevent and combat transnational organized crime;

(*b*) To enhance financial and material assistance to support the efforts of developing countries to fight transnational organized crime effectively and to help them implement this Convention successfully;

(*c*) To provide technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to assist them in meeting their needs for the implementation of this Convention. To that end, States Parties shall endeavour to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions to an account specifically designated for that purpose in a United Nations funding mechanism. States Parties may also give special consideration, in accordance with their domestic law and the provisions of this Convention, to contributing to the aforementioned account a percentage of the money or of the corresponding value of proceeds of crime or property confiscated in accordance with the provisions of this Convention;

(*d*) To encourage and persuade other States and financial institutions as appropriate to join them in efforts in accordance with this article, in particular by providing more training programmes and modern equipment to developing countries in order to assist them in achieving the objectives of this Convention.

3. To the extent possible, these measures shall be without prejudice to existing foreign assistance commitments or to other financial cooperation arrangements at the bilateral, regional or international level.

4. States Parties may conclude bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements on material and logistical assistance, taking into consideration the financial arrangements necessary for the means of international cooperation provided for by this Convention to be effective and for the prevention, detection and control of transnational organized crime.

### *Article 31*
### *Prevention*

1. States Parties shall endeavour to develop and evaluate national projects and to establish and promote best practices and policies aimed at the prevention of transnational organized crime.

2. States Parties shall endeavour, in accordance with fundamental principles of their domestic law, to reduce existing or future opportunities for organized criminal groups to participate in lawful markets with proceeds of crime, through appropriate legislative, administrative or other measures. These measures should focus on:

(*a*) The strengthening of cooperation between law enforcement agencies or prosecutors and relevant private entities, including industry;

(*b*) The promotion of the development of standards and procedures designed to safeguard the integrity of public and relevant private entities, as well as codes of conduct for relevant professions, in particular lawyers, notaries public, tax consultants and accountants;

(*c*) The prevention of the misuse by organized criminal groups of tender procedures conducted by public authorities and of subsidies and licences granted by public authorities for commercial activity;

(*d*) The prevention of the misuse of legal persons by organized criminal groups; such measures could include:

(i) The establishment of public records on legal and natural persons involved in the establishment, management and funding of legal persons;

(ii) The introduction of the possibility of disqualifying by court order or any appropriate means for a reasonable period of time persons convicted of offences covered by this Convention from acting as directors of legal persons incorporated within their jurisdiction;

(iii) The establishment of national records of persons disqualified from acting as directors of legal persons; and

(iv) The exchange of information contained in the records referred to in subparagraphs (*d*) (i) and (iii) of this paragraph with the competent authorities of other States Parties.

3. States Parties shall endeavour to promote the reintegration into society of persons convicted of offences covered by this Convention.

4. States Parties shall endeavour to evaluate periodically existing relevant legal instruments and administrative practices with a view to detecting their vulnerability to misuse by organized criminal groups.

5. States Parties shall endeavour to promote public awareness regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by transnational organized crime. Information may be disseminated where appropriate through the mass media and shall include measures to promote public participation in preventing and combating such crime.

6. Each State Party shall inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the name and address of the authority or authorities that can assist other States Parties in developing measures to prevent transnational organized crime.

7. States Parties shall, as appropriate, collaborate with each other and relevant international and regional organizations in promoting and developing the measures referred to in this article. This includes participation in international projects aimed at the prevention of transnational organized crime, for example by alleviating the circumstances that render socially marginalized groups vulnerable to the action of transnational organized crime.

### *Article 32*
### *Conference of the Parties to the Convention*

1. A Conference of the Parties to the Convention is hereby established to improve the capacity of States Parties to combat transnational organized crime and to promote and review the implementation of this Convention.

2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall convene the Conference of the Parties not later than one year following the entry into force of this Convention. The Conference of the Parties shall adopt rules of procedure and rules governing the activities set forth in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this article (including rules concerning payment of expenses incurred in carrying out those activities).

3. The Conference of the Parties shall agree upon mechanisms for achieving the objectives mentioned in paragraph 1 of this article, including:

(*a*) Facilitating activities by States Parties under articles 29, 30 and 31 of this Convention, including by encouraging the mobilization of voluntary contributions;

(*b*) Facilitating the exchange of information among States Parties on patterns and trends in transnational organized crime and on successful practices for combating it;

(*c*) Cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations;

(*d*) Reviewing periodically the implementation of this Convention;

(*e*) Making recommendations to improve this Convention and its implementation.

4. For the purpose of paragraphs 3 (*d*) and (*e*) of this article, the Conference of the Parties shall acquire the necessary knowledge of the measures taken by States Parties in implementing this Convention and the difficulties encountered by them in doing so through information provided by them and through such supplemental review mechanisms as may be established by the Conference of the Parties.

5. Each State Party shall provide the Conference of the Parties with information on its programmes, plans and practices, as well as legislative and administrative measures to implement this Convention, as required by the Conference of the Parties.

### *Article 33*
### *Secretariat*

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall provide the necessary secretariat services to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.

2. The secretariat shall:

(*a*) Assist the Conference of the Parties in carrying out the activities set forth in article 32 of this Convention and make arrangements and provide the necessary services for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties;

(*b*) Upon request, assist States Parties in providing information to the Conference of the Parties as envisaged in article 32, paragraph 5, of this Convention; and

(*c*) Ensure the necessary coordination with the secretariats of relevant international and regional organizations.

### *Article 34*
### *Implementation of the Convention*

1. Each State Party shall take the necessary measures, including legislative and administrative measures, in accordance with fundamental principles of its domestic law, to ensure the implementation of its obligations under this Convention.

2. The offences established in accordance with articles 5, 6, 8 and 23 of this Convention shall be established in

the domestic law of each State Party independently of the transnational nature or the involvement of an organized criminal group as described in article 3, paragraph 1, of this Convention, except to the extent that article 5 of this Convention would require the involvement of an organized criminal group.

3. Each State Party may adopt more strict or severe measures than those provided for by this Convention for preventing and combating transnational organized crime.

### *Article 35*

### *Settlement of disputes*

1. States Parties shall endeavour to settle disputes concerning the interpretation or application of this Convention through negotiation.

2. Any dispute between two or more States Parties concerning the interpretation or application of this Convention that cannot be settled through negotiation within a reasonable time shall, at the request of one of those States Parties, be submitted to arbitration. If, six months after the date of the request for arbitration, those States Parties are unable to agree on the organization of the arbitration, any one of those States Parties may refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice by request in accordance with the Statute of the Court.

3. Each State Party may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Convention, declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 2 of this article. The other States Parties shall not be bound by paragraph 2 of this article with respect to any State Party that has made such a reservation.

4. Any State Party that has made a reservation in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article may at any time withdraw that reservation by notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

### *Article 36*

### *Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval and accession*

1. This Convention shall be open to all States for signature from 12 to 15 December 2000 in Palermo, Italy, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 12 December 2002.

2. This Convention shall also be open for signature by regional economic integration organizations provided that at least one member State of such organization has signed this Convention in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article.

3. This Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. A regional economic integration organization may deposit its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval if at least one of its member States has done likewise. In that instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, such organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to the matters governed by this Convention. Such organization shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence.

4. This Convention is open for accession by any State or any regional economic integration organization of which at least one member State is a Party to this Convention. Instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. At the time of its accession, a regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by this Convention. Such organization shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence.

### *Article 37*

### *Relation with protocols*

1. This Convention may be supplemented by one or more protocols.

2. In order to become a Party to a protocol, a State or a regional economic integration organization must also be a Party to this Convention.

3. A State Party to this Convention is not bound by a protocol unless it becomes a Party to the protocol in accordance with the provisions thereof.

4. Any protocol to this Convention shall be interpreted together with this Convention, taking into account the purpose of that protocol.

### *Article 38*

### *Entry into force*

1. This Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fortieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. For the purpose of this paragraph, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of such organization.

2. For each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Convention after the deposit of the fortieth instrument of such action, this Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of the relevant instrument.

### *Article 39*

### *Amendment*

1. After the expiry of five years from the entry into force of this Convention, a State Party may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall thereupon communicate the proposed

amendment to the States Parties and to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention for the purpose of considering and deciding on the proposal. The Conference of the Parties shall make every effort to achieve consensus on each amendment. If all efforts at consensus have been exhausted and no agreement has been reached, the amendment shall, as a last resort, require for its adoption a two-thirds majority vote of the States Parties present and voting at the meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

2. Regional economic integration organizations, in matters within their competence, shall exercise their right to vote under this article with a number of votes equal to the number of their member States that are Parties to this Convention. Such organizations shall not exercise their right to vote if their member States exercise theirs and vice versa.

3. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States Parties.

4. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article shall enter into force in respect of a State Party ninety days after the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of such amendment.

5. When an amendment enters into force, it shall be binding on those States Parties which have expressed their consent to be bound by it. Other States Parties shall still be bound by the provisions of this Convention and any earlier amendments that they have ratified, accepted or approved.

### *Article 40*
### *Denunciation*

1. A State Party may denounce this Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General.

2. A regional economic integration organization shall cease to be a Party to this Convention when all of its member States have denounced it.

3. Denunciation of this Convention in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article shall entail the denunciation of any protocols thereto.

### *Article 41*
### *Depositary and languages*

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is designated depositary of this Convention.

2. The original of this Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Convention.

## Annex II

## Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

### Preamble

*The States Parties to this Protocol,*

*Declaring* that effective action to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children, requires a comprehensive international approach in the countries of origin, transit and destination that includes measures to prevent such trafficking, to punish the traffickers and to protect the victims of such trafficking, including by protecting their internationally recognized human rights,

*Taking into account* the fact that, despite the existence of a variety of international instruments containing rules and practical measures to combat the exploitation of persons, especially women and children, there is no universal instrument that addresses all aspects of trafficking in persons,

*Concerned* that, in the absence of such an instrument, persons who are vulnerable to trafficking will not be sufficiently protected,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998, in which the Assembly decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc committee for the purpose of elaborating a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and of discussing the elaboration of, inter alia, an international instrument addressing trafficking in women and children,

*Convinced* that supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime with an international instrument for the prevention, suppression and punishment of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, will be useful in preventing and combating that crime,

*Have agreed as follows:*

### I. General provisions

### *Article 1*
### *Relation with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime*

1. This Protocol supplements the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. It shall be interpreted together with the Convention.

2. The provisions of the Convention shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to this Protocol unless otherwise provided herein.

3. The offences established in accordance with article 5 of this Protocol shall be regarded as offences established in accordance with the Convention.

*Article 2*
*Statement of purpose*

The purposes of this Protocol are:

(*a*) To prevent and combat trafficking in persons, paying particular attention to women and children;

(*b*) To protect and assist the victims of such trafficking, with full respect for their human rights; and

(*c*) To promote cooperation among States Parties in order to meet those objectives.

*Article 3*
*Use of terms*

For the purposes of this Protocol:

(*a*) "Trafficking in persons" shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs;

(*b*) The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth in subparagraph (*a*) of this article shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in subparagraph (*a*) have been used;

(*c*) The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered "trafficking in persons" even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (*a*) of this article;

(*d*) "Child" shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.

*Article 4*
*Scope of application*

This Protocol shall apply, except as otherwise stated herein, to the prevention, investigation and prosecution of the offences established in accordance with article 5 of this Protocol, where those offences are transnational in nature and involve an organized criminal group, as well as to the protection of victims of such offences.

*Article 5*
*Criminalization*

1. Each State Party shall adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences the conduct set forth in article 3 of this Protocol, when committed intentionally.

2. Each State Party shall also adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences:

(*a*) Subject to the basic concepts of its legal system, attempting to commit an offence established in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article;

(*b*) Participating as an accomplice in an offence established in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article; and

(*c*) Organizing or directing other persons to commit an offence established in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article.

## *II. Protection of victims of trafficking in persons*

*Article 6*
*Assistance to and protection of victims of trafficking in persons*

1. In appropriate cases and to the extent possible under its domestic law, each State Party shall protect the privacy and identity of victims of trafficking in persons, including, inter alia, by making legal proceedings relating to such trafficking confidential.

2. Each State Party shall ensure that its domestic legal or administrative system contains measures that provide to victims of trafficking in persons, in appropriate cases:

(*a*) Information on relevant court and administrative proceedings;

(*b*) Assistance to enable their views and concerns to be presented and considered at appropriate stages of criminal proceedings against offenders, in a manner not prejudicial to the rights of the defence.

3. Each State Party shall consider implementing measures to provide for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking in persons, including, in appropriate cases, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations, other relevant organizations and other elements of civil society, and, in particular, the provision of:

(*a*) Appropriate housing;

(*b*) Counselling and information, in particular as regards their legal rights, in a language that the victims of trafficking in persons can understand;

(*c*) Medical, psychological and material assistance; and

(*d*) Employment, educational and training opportunities.

4. Each State Party shall take into account, in applying the provisions of this article, the age, gender and special needs of victims of trafficking in persons, in particular the special needs of children, including appropriate housing, education and care.

5. Each State Party shall endeavour to provide for the physical safety of victims of trafficking in persons while they are within its territory.

6. Each State Party shall ensure that its domestic legal system contains measures that offer victims of trafficking in persons the possibility of obtaining compensation for damage suffered.

### *Article 7*
### *Status of victims of trafficking in persons in receiving States*

1. In addition to taking measures pursuant to article 6 of this Protocol, each State Party shall consider adopting legislative or other appropriate measures that permit victims of trafficking in persons to remain in its territory, temporarily or permanently, in appropriate cases.

2. In implementing the provision contained in paragraph 1 of this article, each State Party shall give appropriate consideration to humanitarian and compassionate factors.

### *Article 8*
### *Repatriation of victims of trafficking in persons*

1. The State Party of which a victim of trafficking in persons is a national or in which the person had the right of permanent residence at the time of entry into the territory of the receiving State Party shall facilitate and accept, with due regard for the safety of that person, the return of that person without undue or unreasonable delay.

2. When a State Party returns a victim of trafficking in persons to a State Party of which that person is a national or in which he or she had, at the time of entry into the territory of the receiving State Party, the right of permanent residence, such return shall be with due regard for the safety of that person and for the status of any legal proceedings related to the fact that the person is a victim of trafficking and shall preferably be voluntary.

3. At the request of a receiving State Party, a requested State Party shall, without undue or unreasonable delay, verify whether a person who is a victim of trafficking in persons is its national or had the right of permanent residence in its territory at the time of entry into the territory of the receiving State Party.

4. In order to facilitate the return of a victim of trafficking in persons who is without proper documentation, the State Party of which that person is a national or in which he or she had the right of permanent residence at the time of entry into the territory of the receiving State Party shall agree to issue, at the request of the receiving State Party, such travel documents or other authorization as may be necessary to enable the person to travel to and re-enter its territory.

5. This article shall be without prejudice to any right afforded to victims of trafficking in persons by any domestic law of the receiving State Party.

6. This article shall be without prejudice to any applicable bilateral or multilateral agreement or arrangement that governs, in whole or in part, the return of victims of trafficking in persons.

## III. Prevention, cooperation and other measures

### *Article 9*
### *Prevention of trafficking in persons*

1. States Parties shall establish comprehensive policies, programmes and other measures:

(*a*) To prevent and combat trafficking in persons; and

(*b*) To protect victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, from revictimization.

2. States Parties shall endeavour to undertake measures such as research, information and mass media campaigns and social and economic initiatives to prevent and combat trafficking in persons.

3. Policies, programmes and other measures established in accordance with this article shall, as appropriate, include cooperation with non-governmental organizations, other relevant organizations and other elements of civil society.

4. States Parties shall take or strengthen measures, including through bilateral or multilateral cooperation, to alleviate the factors that make persons, especially women and children, vulnerable to trafficking, such as poverty, underdevelopment and lack of equal opportunity.

5. States Parties shall adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures, such as educational, social or cultural measures, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, that leads to trafficking.

### *Article 10*
### *Information exchange and training*

1. Law enforcement, immigration or other relevant authorities of States Parties shall, as appropriate, cooperate with one another by exchanging information, in accordance with their domestic law, to enable them to determine:

(*a*) Whether individuals crossing or attempting to cross an international border with travel documents belonging to other persons or without travel documents are perpetrators or victims of trafficking in persons;

(*b*) The types of travel document that individuals have used or attempted to use to cross an international border for the purpose of trafficking in persons; and

(*c*) The means and methods used by organized criminal groups for the purpose of trafficking in persons, including the recruitment and transportation of victims, routes and links between and among individuals and groups engaged in such trafficking, and possible measures for detecting them.

2. States Parties shall provide or strengthen training for law enforcement, immigration and other relevant officials in the prevention of trafficking in persons. The training should focus on methods used in preventing such trafficking, prosecuting the traffickers and protecting the rights of the victims, including protecting the victims from the traffickers. The training should also take into account the need to consider human rights and child- and gender-sensitive issues and it should encourage cooperation with non-governmental organizations, other relevant organizations and other elements of civil society.

3. A State Party that receives information shall comply with any request by the State Party that transmitted the information that places restrictions on its use.

### *Article 11*
### *Border measures*

1. Without prejudice to international commitments in relation to the free movement of people, States Parties shall strengthen, to the extent possible, such border controls as may be necessary to prevent and detect trafficking in persons.

2. Each State Party shall adopt legislative or other appropriate measures to prevent, to the extent possible, means of transport operated by commercial carriers from being used in the commission of offences established in accordance with article 5 of this Protocol.

3. Where appropriate, and without prejudice to applicable international conventions, such measures shall include establishing the obligation of commercial carriers, including any transportation company or the owner or operator of any means of transport, to ascertain that all passengers are in possession of the travel documents required for entry into the receiving State.

4. Each State Party shall take the necessary measures, in accordance with its domestic law, to provide for sanctions in cases of violation of the obligation set forth in paragraph 3 of this article.

5. Each State Party shall consider taking measures that permit, in accordance with its domestic law, the denial of entry or revocation of visas of persons implicated in the commission of offences established in accordance with this Protocol.

6. Without prejudice to article 27 of the Convention, States Parties shall consider strengthening cooperation among border control agencies by, inter alia, establishing and maintaining direct channels of communication.

### *Article 12*
### *Security and control of documents*

Each State Party shall take such measures as may be necessary, within available means:

(*a*) To ensure that travel or identity documents issued by it are of such quality that they cannot easily be misused and cannot readily be falsified or unlawfully altered, replicated or issued; and

(*b*) To ensure the integrity and security of travel or identity documents issued by or on behalf of the State Party and to prevent their unlawful creation, issuance and use.

### *Article 13*
### *Legitimacy and validity of documents*

At the request of another State Party, a State Party shall, in accordance with its domestic law, verify within a reasonable time the legitimacy and validity of travel or identity documents issued or purported to have been issued in its name and suspected of being used for trafficking in persons.

## IV. Final provisions

### *Article 14*
### *Saving clause*

1. Nothing in this Protocol shall affect the rights, obligations and responsibilities of States and individuals under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law and, in particular, where applicable, the 1951 Convention[82] and the 1967 Protocol[83] relating to the Status of Refugees and the principle of non-refoulement as contained therein.

2. The measures set forth in this Protocol shall be interpreted and applied in a way that is not discriminatory to persons on the ground that they are victims of trafficking in persons. The interpretation and application of those measures shall be consistent with internationally recognized principles of non-discrimination.

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[82] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[83] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

### *Article 15*
### *Settlement of disputes*

1. States Parties shall endeavour to settle disputes concerning the interpretation or application of this Protocol through negotiation.

2. Any dispute between two or more States Parties concerning the interpretation or application of this Protocol that cannot be settled through negotiation within a reasonable time shall, at the request of one of those States Parties, be submitted to arbitration. If, six months after the date of the request for arbitration, those States Parties are unable to agree on the organization of the arbitration, any one of those States Parties may refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice by request in accordance with the Statute of the Court.

3. Each State Party may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Protocol, declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 2 of this article. The other States Parties shall not be bound by paragraph 2 of this article with respect to any State Party that has made such a reservation.

4. Any State Party that has made a reservation in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article may at any time withdraw that reservation by notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

### *Article 16*
### *Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval and accession*

1. This Protocol shall be open to all States for signature from 12 to 15 December 2000 in Palermo, Italy, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 12 December 2002.

2. This Protocol shall also be open for signature by regional economic integration organizations provided that at least one member State of such organization has signed this Protocol in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article.

3. This Protocol is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. A regional economic integration organization may deposit its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval if at least one of its member States has done likewise. In that instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, such organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to the matters governed by this Protocol. Such organization shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence.

4. This Protocol is open for accession by any State or any regional economic integration organization of which at least one member State is a Party to this Protocol. Instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. At the time of its accession, a regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by this Protocol. Such organization shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence.

### *Article 17*
### *Entry into force*

1. This Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fortieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, except that it shall not enter into force before the entry into force of the Convention. For the purpose of this paragraph, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of such organization.

2. For each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Protocol after the deposit of the fortieth instrument of such action, this Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of the relevant instrument or on the date this Protocol enters into force pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article, whichever is the later.

### *Article 18*
### *Amendment*

1. After the expiry of five years from the entry into force of this Protocol, a State Party to the Protocol may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall thereupon communicate the proposed amendment to the States Parties and to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention for the purpose of considering and deciding on the proposal. The States Parties to this Protocol meeting at the Conference of the Parties shall make every effort to achieve consensus on each amendment. If all efforts at consensus have been exhausted and no agreement has been reached, the amendment shall, as a last resort, require for its adoption a two-thirds majority vote of the States Parties to this Protocol present and voting at the meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

2. Regional economic integration organizations, in matters within their competence, shall exercise their right to vote under this article with a number of votes equal to the number of their member States that are Parties to this Protocol. Such organizations shall not exercise their right to vote if their member States exercise theirs and vice versa.

3. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States Parties.

4. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article shall enter into force in respect of a State Party ninety days after the date of the deposit with the

Secretary-General of the United Nations of an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of such amendment.

5. When an amendment enters into force, it shall be binding on those States Parties which have expressed their consent to be bound by it. Other States Parties shall still be bound by the provisions of this Protocol and any earlier amendments that they have ratified, accepted or approved.

*Article 19*
*Denunciation*

1. A State Party may denounce this Protocol by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General.

2. A regional economic integration organization shall cease to be a Party to this Protocol when all of its member States have denounced it.

*Article 20*
*Depositary and languages*

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is designated depositary of this Protocol.

2. The original of this Protocol, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Protocol.

## Annex III

## Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

### Preamble

*The States Parties to this Protocol,*

*Declaring* that effective action to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air requires a comprehensive international approach, including cooperation, the exchange of information and other appropriate measures, including socio-economic measures, at the national, regional and international levels,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 54/212 of 22 December 1999, in which the Assembly urged Member States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation in the area of international migration and development in order to address the root causes of migration, especially those related to poverty, and to maximize the benefits of international migration to those concerned, and encouraged, where relevant, interregional, regional and subregional mechanisms to continue to address the question of migration and development,

*Convinced* of the need to provide migrants with humane treatment and full protection of their rights,

*Taking into account* the fact that, despite work undertaken in other international forums, there is no universal instrument that addresses all aspects of smuggling of migrants and other related issues,

*Concerned* at the significant increase in the activities of organized criminal groups in smuggling of migrants and other related criminal activities set forth in this Protocol, which bring great harm to the States concerned,

*Also concerned* that the smuggling of migrants can endanger the lives or security of the migrants involved,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998, in which the Assembly decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc committee for the purpose of elaborating a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and of discussing the elaboration of, inter alia, an international instrument addressing illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea,

*Convinced* that supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime with an international instrument against the smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air will be useful in preventing and combating that crime,

*Have agreed as follows:*

### I. General provisions

*Article 1*
*Relation with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime*

1. This Protocol supplements the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. It shall be interpreted together with the Convention.

2. The provisions of the Convention shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to this Protocol unless otherwise provided herein.

3. The offences established in accordance with article 6 of this Protocol shall be regarded as offences established in accordance with the Convention.

*Article 2*
*Statement of purpose*

The purpose of this Protocol is to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants, as well as to promote cooperation among States Parties to that end, while protecting the rights of smuggled migrants.

### *Article 3*
### *Use of terms*

For the purposes of this Protocol:

(*a*) "Smuggling of migrants" shall mean the procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident;

(*b*) "Illegal entry" shall mean crossing borders without complying with the necessary requirements for legal entry into the receiving State;

(*c*) "Fraudulent travel or identity document" shall mean any travel or identity document:

(i) That has been falsely made or altered in some material way by anyone other than a person or agency lawfully authorized to make or issue the travel or identity document on behalf of a State; or

(ii) That has been improperly issued or obtained through misrepresentation, corruption or duress or in any other unlawful manner; or

(iii) That is being used by a person other than the rightful holder;

(*d*) "Vessel" shall mean any type of water craft, including non-displacement craft and seaplanes, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water, except a warship, naval auxiliary or other vessel owned or operated by a Government and used, for the time being, only on government non-commercial service.

### *Article 4*
### *Scope of application*

This Protocol shall apply, except as otherwise stated herein, to the prevention, investigation and prosecution of the offences established in accordance with article 6 of this Protocol, where the offences are transnational in nature and involve an organized criminal group, as well as to the protection of the rights of persons who have been the object of such offences.

### *Article 5*
### *Criminal liability of migrants*

Migrants shall not become liable to criminal prosecution under this Protocol for the fact of having been the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol.

### *Article 6*
### *Criminalization*

1. Each State Party shall adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences, when committed intentionally and in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit:

(*a*) The smuggling of migrants;

(*b*) When committed for the purpose of enabling the smuggling of migrants:

(i) Producing a fraudulent travel or identity document;

(ii) Procuring, providing or possessing such a document;

(*c*) Enabling a person who is not a national or a permanent resident to remain in the State concerned without complying with the necessary requirements for legally remaining in the State by the means mentioned in subparagraph (*b*) of this paragraph or any other illegal means.

2. Each State Party shall also adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences:

(*a*) Subject to the basic concepts of its legal system, attempting to commit an offence established in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article;

(*b*) Participating as an accomplice in an offence established in accordance with paragraph 1 (*a*), (*b*) (i) or (*c*) of this article and, subject to the basic concepts of its legal system, participating as an accomplice in an offence established in accordance with paragraph 1 (*b*) (ii) of this article;

(*c*) Organizing or directing other persons to commit an offence established in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article.

3. Each State Party shall adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as aggravating circumstances to the offences established in accordance with paragraph 1 (*a*), (*b*) (i) and (*c*) of this article and, subject to the basic concepts of its legal system, to the offences established in accordance with paragraph 2 (*b*) and (*c*) of this article, circumstances:

(*a*) That endanger, or are likely to endanger, the lives or safety of the migrants concerned; or

(*b*) That entail inhuman or degrading treatment, including for exploitation, of such migrants.

4. Nothing in this Protocol shall prevent a State Party from taking measures against a person whose conduct constitutes an offence under its domestic law.

## II. Smuggling of migrants by sea

*Article 7*
*Cooperation*

States Parties shall cooperate to the fullest extent possible to prevent and suppress the smuggling of migrants by sea, in accordance with the international law of the sea.

*Article 8*
*Measures against the smuggling of migrants by sea*

1. A State Party that has reasonable grounds to suspect that a vessel that is flying its flag or claiming its registry, that is without nationality or that, though flying a foreign flag or refusing to show a flag, is in reality of the nationality of the State Party concerned is engaged in the smuggling of migrants by sea may request the assistance of other States Parties in suppressing the use of the vessel for that purpose. The States Parties so requested shall render such assistance to the extent possible within their means.

2. A State Party that has reasonable grounds to suspect that a vessel exercising freedom of navigation in accordance with international law and flying the flag or displaying the marks of registry of another State Party is engaged in the smuggling of migrants by sea may so notify the flag State, request confirmation of registry and, if confirmed, request authorization from the flag State to take appropriate measures with regard to that vessel. The flag State may authorize the requesting State, inter alia:

(*a*) To board the vessel;

(*b*) To search the vessel; and

(*c*) If evidence is found that the vessel is engaged in the smuggling of migrants by sea, to take appropriate measures with respect to the vessel and persons and cargo on board, as authorized by the flag State.

3. A State Party that has taken any measure in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article shall promptly inform the flag State concerned of the results of that measure.

4. A State Party shall respond expeditiously to a request from another State Party to determine whether a vessel that is claiming its registry or flying its flag is entitled to do so and to a request for authorization made in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article.

5. A flag State may, consistent with article 7 of this Protocol, subject its authorization to conditions to be agreed by it and the requesting State, including conditions relating to responsibility and the extent of effective measures to be taken. A State Party shall take no additional measures without the express authorization of the flag State, except those necessary to relieve imminent danger to the lives of persons or those which derive from relevant bilateral or multilateral agreements.

6. Each State Party shall designate an authority or, where necessary, authorities to receive and respond to requests for assistance, for confirmation of registry or of the right of a vessel to fly its flag and for authorization to take appropriate measures. Such designation shall be notified through the Secretary-General to all other States Parties within one month of the designation.

7. A State Party that has reasonable grounds to suspect that a vessel is engaged in the smuggling of migrants by sea and is without nationality or may be assimilated to a vessel without nationality may board and search the vessel. If evidence confirming the suspicion is found, that State Party shall take appropriate measures in accordance with relevant domestic and international law.

*Article 9*
*Safeguard clauses*

1. Where a State Party takes measures against a vessel in accordance with article 8 of this Protocol, it shall:

(*a*) Ensure the safety and humane treatment of the persons on board;

(*b*) Take due account of the need not to endanger the security of the vessel or its cargo;

(*c*) Take due account of the need not to prejudice the commercial or legal interests of the flag State or any other interested State;

(*d*) Ensure, within available means, that any measure taken with regard to the vessel is environmentally sound.

2. Where the grounds for measures taken pursuant to article 8 of this Protocol prove to be unfounded, the vessel shall be compensated for any loss or damage that may have been sustained, provided that the vessel has not committed any act justifying the measures taken.

3. Any measure taken, adopted or implemented in accordance with this chapter shall take due account of the need not to interfere with or to affect:

(*a*) The rights and obligations and the exercise of jurisdiction of coastal States in accordance with the international law of the sea; or

(*b*) The authority of the flag State to exercise jurisdiction and control in administrative, technical and social matters involving the vessel.

4. Any measure taken at sea pursuant to this chapter shall be carried out only by warships or military aircraft, or by other ships or aircraft clearly marked and identifiable as being on government service and authorized to that effect.

## III. Prevention, cooperation and other measures

*Article 10*
*Information*

1. Without prejudice to articles 27 and 28 of the Convention, States Parties, in particular those with common borders or located on routes along which migrants are smuggled, shall, for the purpose of achieving the objectives of this Protocol, exchange among themselves, consistent with their respective domestic legal and administrative systems, relevant information on matters such as:

(*a*) Embarkation and destination points, as well as routes, carriers and means of transportation, known to be or suspected of being used by an organized criminal group engaged in conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol;

(*b*) The identity and methods of organizations or organized criminal groups known to be or suspected of being engaged in conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol;

(*c*) The authenticity and proper form of travel documents issued by a State Party and the theft or related misuse of blank travel or identity documents;

(*d*) Means and methods of concealment and transportation of persons, the unlawful alteration, reproduction or acquisition or other misuse of travel or identity documents used in conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol and ways of detecting them;

(*e*) Legislative experiences and practices and measures to prevent and combat the conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol; and

(*f*) Scientific and technological information useful to law enforcement, so as to enhance each other's ability to prevent, detect and investigate the conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol and to prosecute those involved.

2. A State Party that receives information shall comply with any request by the State Party that transmitted the information that places restrictions on its use.

*Article 11*
*Border measures*

1. Without prejudice to international commitments in relation to the free movement of people, States Parties shall strengthen, to the extent possible, such border controls as may be necessary to prevent and detect the smuggling of migrants.

2. Each State Party shall adopt legislative or other appropriate measures to prevent, to the extent possible, means of transport operated by commercial carriers from being used in the commission of the offence established in accordance with article 6, paragraph 1 (*a*), of this Protocol.

3. Where appropriate, and without prejudice to applicable international conventions, such measures shall include establishing the obligation of commercial carriers, including any transportation company or the owner or operator of any means of transport, to ascertain that all passengers are in possession of the travel documents required for entry into the receiving State.

4. Each State Party shall take the necessary measures, in accordance with its domestic law, to provide for sanctions in cases of violation of the obligation set forth in paragraph 3 of this article.

5. Each State Party shall consider taking measures that permit, in accordance with its domestic law, the denial of entry or revocation of visas of persons implicated in the commission of offences established in accordance with this Protocol.

6. Without prejudice to article 27 of the Convention, States Parties shall consider strengthening cooperation among border control agencies by, inter alia, establishing and maintaining direct channels of communication.

*Article 12*
*Security and control of documents*

Each State Party shall take such measures as may be necessary, within available means:

(*a*) To ensure that travel or identity documents issued by it are of such quality that they cannot easily be misused and cannot readily be falsified or unlawfully altered, replicated or issued; and

(*b*) To ensure the integrity and security of travel or identity documents issued by or on behalf of the State Party and to prevent their unlawful creation, issuance and use.

*Article 13*
*Legitimacy and validity of documents*

At the request of another State Party, a State Party shall, in accordance with its domestic law, verify within a reasonable time the legitimacy and validity of travel or identity documents issued or purported to have been issued in its name and suspected of being used for purposes of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol.

*Article 14*
*Training and technical cooperation*

1. States Parties shall provide or strengthen specialized training for immigration and other relevant officials in preventing the conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol and in the humane treatment of migrants who have been the object of such conduct, while respecting their rights as set forth in this Protocol.

2. States Parties shall cooperate with each other and with competent international organizations, non-governmental organizations, other relevant organizations and other elements of civil society as appropriate to ensure that there is adequate personnel training in their territories to prevent, combat and eradicate the conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol and to protect the rights of migrants who have been the object of such conduct. Such training shall include:

(*a*) Improving the security and quality of travel documents;

(*b*) Recognizing and detecting fraudulent travel or identity documents;

(*c*) Gathering criminal intelligence, relating in particular to the identification of organized criminal groups known to be or suspected of being engaged in conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol, the methods used to transport smuggled migrants, the misuse of travel or identity documents for purposes of conduct set forth in article 6 and the means of concealment used in the smuggling of migrants;

(*d*) Improving procedures for detecting smuggled persons at conventional and non-conventional points of entry and exit; and

(*e*) The humane treatment of migrants and the protection of their rights as set forth in this Protocol.

3. States Parties with relevant expertise shall consider providing technical assistance to States that are frequently countries of origin or transit for persons who have been the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol. States Parties shall make every effort to provide the necessary resources, such as vehicles, computer systems and document readers, to combat the conduct set forth in article 6.

### *Article 15*
### *Other prevention measures*

1. Each State Party shall take measures to ensure that it provides or strengthens information programmes to increase public awareness of the fact that the conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol is a criminal activity frequently perpetrated by organized criminal groups for profit and that it poses serious risks to the migrants concerned.

2. In accordance with article 31 of the Convention, States Parties shall cooperate in the field of public information for the purpose of preventing potential migrants from falling victim to organized criminal groups.

3. Each State Party shall promote or strengthen, as appropriate, development programmes and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels, taking into account the socio-economic realities of migration and paying special attention to economically and socially depressed areas, in order to combat the root socio-economic causes of the smuggling of migrants, such as poverty and underdevelopment.

### *Article 16*
### *Protection and assistance measures*

1. In implementing this Protocol, each State Party shall take, consistent with its obligations under international law, all appropriate measures, including legislation if necessary, to preserve and protect the rights of persons who have been the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol as accorded under applicable international law, in particular the right to life and the right not to be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

2. Each State Party shall take appropriate measures to afford migrants appropriate protection against violence that may be inflicted upon them, whether by individuals or groups, by reason of being the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol.

3. Each State Party shall afford appropriate assistance to migrants whose lives or safety are endangered by reason of being the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol.

4. In applying the provisions of this article, States Parties shall take into account the special needs of women and children.

5. In the case of the detention of a person who has been the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol, each State Party shall comply with its obligations under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[84] where applicable, including that of informing the person concerned without delay about the provisions concerning notification to and communication with consular officers.

### *Article 17*
### *Agreements and arrangements*

States Parties shall consider the conclusion of bilateral or regional agreements or operational arrangements or understandings aimed at:

(*a*) Establishing the most appropriate and effective measures to prevent and combat the conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol; or

(*b*) Enhancing the provisions of this Protocol among themselves.

### *Article 18*
### *Return of smuggled migrants*

1. Each State Party agrees to facilitate and accept, without undue or unreasonable delay, the return of a person who

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[84] Ibid., vol. 596, Nos. 8638–8640.

has been the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol and who is its national or who has the right of permanent residence in its territory at the time of return.

2. Each State Party shall consider the possibility of facilitating and accepting the return of a person who has been the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol and who had the right of permanent residence in its territory at the time of entry into the receiving State in accordance with its domestic law.

3. At the request of the receiving State Party, a requested State Party shall, without undue or unreasonable delay, verify whether a person who has been the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol is its national or has the right of permanent residence in its territory.

4. In order to facilitate the return of a person who has been the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol and is without proper documentation, the State Party of which that person is a national or in which he or she has the right of permanent residence shall agree to issue, at the request of the receiving State Party, such travel documents or other authorization as may be necessary to enable the person to travel to and re-enter its territory.

5. Each State Party involved with the return of a person who has been the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol shall take all appropriate measures to carry out the return in an orderly manner and with due regard for the safety and dignity of the person.

6. States Parties may cooperate with relevant international organizations in the implementation of this article.

7. This article shall be without prejudice to any right afforded to persons who have been the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol by any domestic law of the receiving State Party.

8. This article shall not affect the obligations entered into under any other applicable treaty, bilateral or multilateral, or any other applicable operational agreement or arrangement that governs, in whole or in part, the return of persons who have been the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol.

## IV. Final provisions

### *Article 19*
### *Saving clause*

1. Nothing in this Protocol shall affect the other rights, obligations and responsibilities of States and individuals under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law and, in particular, where applicable, the 1951 Convention[82] and the 1967 Protocol[83] relating to the Status of Refugees and the principle of non-refoulement as contained therein.

2. The measures set forth in this Protocol shall be interpreted and applied in a way that is not discriminatory to persons on the ground that they are the object of conduct set forth in article 6 of this Protocol. The interpretation and application of those measures shall be consistent with internationally recognized principles of non-discrimination.

### *Article 20*
### *Settlement of disputes*

1. States Parties shall endeavour to settle disputes concerning the interpretation or application of this Protocol through negotiation.

2. Any dispute between two or more States Parties concerning the interpretation or application of this Protocol that cannot be settled through negotiation within a reasonable time shall, at the request of one of those States Parties, be submitted to arbitration. If, six months after the date of the request for arbitration, those States Parties are unable to agree on the organization of the arbitration, any one of those States Parties may refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice by request in accordance with the Statute of the Court.

3. Each State Party may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Protocol, declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 2 of this article. The other States Parties shall not be bound by paragraph 2 of this article with respect to any State Party that has made such a reservation.

4. Any State Party that has made a reservation in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article may at any time withdraw that reservation by notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

### *Article 21*
### *Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval and accession*

1. This Protocol shall be open to all States for signature from 12 to 15 December 2000 in Palermo, Italy, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 12 December 2002.

2. This Protocol shall also be open for signature by regional economic integration organizations provided that at least one member State of such organization has signed this Protocol in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article.

3. This Protocol is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. A regional economic integration organization may deposit its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval if at least one of its member States has done likewise. In that instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, such organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to the matters governed by this Protocol. Such

organization shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence.

4. This Protocol is open for accession by any State or any regional economic integration organization of which at least one member State is a Party to this Protocol. Instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. At the time of its accession, a regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by this Protocol. Such organization shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence.

### *Article 22*
### *Entry into force*

1. This Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fortieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, except that it shall not enter into force before the entry into force of the Convention. For the purpose of this paragraph, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of such organization.

2. For each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Protocol after the deposit of the fortieth instrument of such action, this Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of the relevant instrument or on the date this Protocol enters into force pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article, whichever is the later.

### *Article 23*
### *Amendment*

1. After the expiry of five years from the entry into force of this Protocol, a State Party to the Protocol may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall thereupon communicate the proposed amendment to the States Parties and to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention for the purpose of considering and deciding on the proposal. The States Parties to this Protocol meeting at the Conference of the Parties shall make every effort to achieve consensus on each amendment. If all efforts at consensus have been exhausted and no agreement has been reached, the amendment shall, as a last resort, require for its adoption a two-thirds majority vote of the States Parties to this Protocol present and voting at the meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

2. Regional economic integration organizations, in matters within their competence, shall exercise their right to vote under this article with a number of votes equal to the number of their member States that are Parties to this Protocol. Such organizations shall not exercise their right to vote if their member States exercise theirs and vice versa.

3. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States Parties.

4. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article shall enter into force in respect of a State Party ninety days after the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of such amendment.

5. When an amendment enters into force, it shall be binding on those States Parties which have expressed their consent to be bound by it. Other States Parties shall still be bound by the provisions of this Protocol and any earlier amendments that they have ratified, accepted or approved.

### *Article 24*
### *Denunciation*

1. A State Party may denounce this Protocol by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General.

2. A regional economic integration organization shall cease to be a Party to this Protocol when all of its member States have denounced it.

### *Article 25*
### *Depositary and languages*

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is designated depositary of this Protocol.

2. The original of this Protocol, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Protocol.

## RESOLUTION 55/26

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.34/Rev.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and

Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia

### 55/26. Preparations for the special session on children

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 45/217 of 21 December 1990, in which it welcomed the adoption by the World Summit for Children of the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s,[85] 51/186 of 16 December 1996, 53/193 of 15 December 1998 and 54/93 of 7 December 1999,

*Bearing in mind* the nearly universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[86]

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration[87] and, in particular, the paragraphs relevant to the situation of children,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children,[88]

*Taking note also* of the reports of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session on its organizational and first substantive sessions[89] and of the decisions contained therein,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments adopted by the heads of State and Government at the World Summit for Children on 30 September 1990, as contained in the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s,[85] and their appeal to give every child a better future;

2. *Also reaffirms* that the special session of the General Assembly in 2001, while reviewing the achievements in the implementation and results of the World Declaration and Plan of Action, will make a renewed commitment and consider future action for children in the forthcoming decade;

3. *Stresses* that the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[86] contributes to the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children, and recommends that a thorough assessment of the ten years of implementation of the Convention be an essential element in the preparations for the special session;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives and actions taken by Governments and relevant organizations, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, as well as regional and subregional organizations, to review the progress achieved since the World Summit for Children, and in this regard encourages appropriate national, regional and international preparatory activities with a view to contributing to the preparations for the special session and building partnerships for and with children;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account the national reports to be submitted by Member States, to submit to the General Assembly at its special session, through the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session, a review of the implementation and results of the World Declaration and Plan of Action, including appropriate recommendations for further actions, which also elaborates on the best practices noted and obstacles encountered in the implementation process, as well as on measures to overcome those obstacles;

6. *Reaffirms* the need for the full and effective participation of Member States, and in this regard reiterates its invitation to heads of State and Government to participate in the special session;

7. *Welcomes* the assignment by heads of State and Government of personal representatives to the Preparatory Committee, and reiterates the invitation to heads of State and Government who have not assigned personal representatives to consider doing so;

8. *Reiterates its invitation* to States members of the specialized agencies that are not Members of the United Nations to participate in the work of the special session, in the capacity of observers;

9. *Reaffirms* the important role of all relevant actors, including non-governmental organizations, in implementing the Plan of Action, and stresses the need for their active involvement in the preparatory process, including in the work of the Preparatory Committee, and at the special session, the modalities for which are being addressed by the Preparatory Committee;

10. *Reiterates* the importance of a participatory process at the national, regional and international levels with a view, inter alia, to establishing partnerships among a broad range of actors, including children and young people, in order to raise momentum for the rights and needs of children;

11. *Highlights* the important role of children and young people in this process, and in this regard encourages States to facilitate and promote their active contribution to the preparatory process, including in the work of the Preparatory Committee, and the special session;

12. *Urges* all relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the funds and programmes,

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[85] A/45/625, annex.

[86] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[87] See resolution 55/2.

[88] A/55/429.

[89] A/55/43 (Parts I and II). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 43*.

specialized agencies and the international financial institutions, actively to participate in the preparations for the special session;

13. *Reiterates its invitation* to the Committee on the Rights of the Child to provide its input to the preparatory process and at the special session;

14. *Reiterates its invitation also* to all relevant experts, including the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, to participate in the preparatory process and the special session, in accordance with the established practice;

15. *Decides* to convene the special session of the General Assembly for follow-up to the World Summit for Children from 19 to 21 September 2001, and to refer to it as the "special session on children";

16. *Decides also* to convene two substantive sessions of the Preparatory Committee in New York during 2001, one from 29 January to 2 February and the other from 11 to 15 June;

17. *Decides further* to invite the associate members of the regional commissions listed in the footnote[90] to participate as observers in the special session and its preparatory process, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

18. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full participation of the least developed countries in the special session and the preparations for the session, and in this regard expresses its appreciation to the Governments which have made financial contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for that purpose, and invites the Governments which have not yet contributed to do so;

19. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments which have made financial contributions towards the preparatory activities undertaken by the United Nations Children's Fund as the substantive secretariat of the special session, and encourages Governments which have not yet contributed to do so;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session an item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children".

## RESOLUTION 55/42

Adopted at the 70th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.22/Rev.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

### 55/42. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

*Recalling also* the resolutions previously adopted by the General Assembly on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization, and inviting various specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and relevant international financial institutions to join in their efforts towards implementation of economic programmes and projects of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

*Bearing in mind* the progress attained by the Economic Cooperation Organization in its reorganizational endeavours as well as in launching and implementing various regional development projects and programmes over the past decade,

*Welcoming* the endeavours of the Economic Cooperation Organization in regard to consolidating its ties with the United Nations system and with relevant international and regional organizations towards the furtherance of its objectives,

*Taking note* of the Tehran Declaration issued at the sixth summit meeting of the heads of State or Government of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, held in Tehran on 10 June 2000,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the decision of the Economic Cooperation Organization at its sixth summit meeting to welcome the initiative of Mohammad Khatami, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on dialogue among civilizations, the United Nations having designated 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, in order to promote this concept through planning and implementation of appropriate cultural, educational and social activities in the regional and global context,

*Recalling* that one of the main objectives of the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization is to promote international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character,

*Expressing grave concern* over the human casualties caused by natural disasters and their devastating impact on the socio-economic situation of some States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

*Noting with appreciation* the decision of the Economic Cooperation Organization to hold ministerial-level meetings in the areas of energy, agriculture, industry and human development,

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[90] American Samoa, Anguilla, Aruba, British Virgin Islands, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, New Caledonia, Niue, Puerto Rico, United States Virgin Islands.

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 54/100 of 9 December 1999,[91] and expresses satisfaction at the enhanced pace of mutually beneficial interaction between the two organizations;

2. *Stresses* the importance of cooperation between the United Nations system and the Economic Cooperation Organization to address the challenges and opportunities of globalization in the region of the Economic Cooperation Organization by promoting the integration of States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, as appropriate, into the world economy, particularly in areas of concern to States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, inter alia, trade, finance and transfer of technology;

3. *Notes* the holding of ministerial-level meetings in the transport and communications sector and in commerce/foreign trade, which, inter alia, resulted in the adoption of annexes to the Economic Cooperation Organization Transit Transport Framework Agreement and a framework agreement on trade, respectively;

4. *Welcomes* the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in November 1999, and expresses the hope that their mutual cooperation will add impetus to the ongoing trade/transit trade and transport arrangements in the region of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the increasing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the World Trade Organization which has accorded observer status to the former, and the increasing involvement of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the relevant forums and ministerial conferences of the World Trade Organization, and also notes the holding of joint Economic Cooperation Organization and World Trade Organization seminars on trade negotiation simulation;

6. *Welcomes* the growing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and relevant international financial institutions, such as the World Bank and the Islamic Development Bank, in particular the financial assistance extended by the latter in the fields of transport, trade, energy and agriculture;

7. *Expresses satisfaction* at the regional arrangements made by the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization for transporting the oil and gas of the region to different parts of the world;

8. *Welcomes* the holding of a joint Economic Cooperation Organization and United Nations Population Fund Conference on Expanding Contraceptive Choice and Improving Quality of Reproductive Health Programmes, held in Istanbul in May 2000, and calls upon the Fund and other relevant United Nations entities, in cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization, to continue activities in the field of public health and social development in the future;

9. *Notes* the increasing problem of the production, transit and abuse of narcotic drugs and their ill effects in the region, expresses its appreciation for the operations of the joint Economic Cooperation Organization and United Nations International Drug Control Programme project on a drug control coordination unit established within the secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization in July 1999, and calls upon the other international and regional organizations to assist, as appropriate, the Economic Cooperation Organization in its efforts against the drug menace in the region of that organization;

10. *Also notes* the expansion of cultural ties in the region under the aegis of the Cultural Institute of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and requests support for efforts to promote, and promote awareness of, the rich cultural and literary heritage of the region of the Economic Cooperation Organization through the launching of appropriate projects and programmes dealing with, inter alia, the issues regarding the initiative of President Khatami on dialogue among civilizations, with possible assistance from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant entities;

11. *Invites* the United Nations system, its relevant bodies and the international community to continue to provide technical assistance, as appropriate, to the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization and its secretariat in strengthening their early warning system, preparedness, capacity for timely response and rehabilitation with a view to reducing the incidence of human casualties and mitigating the socio-economic impact of natural disasters;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".

## RESOLUTION 55/43

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 27 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.32/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia,

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[91] A/55/122.

Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Yemen

## 55/43. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

*The General Assembly*,

*Bearing in mind* the indissoluble links between the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[92] and the foundations of any democratic society,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[93] in particular paragraphs 6 and 24,

*Recalling also* the Manila Declaration[94] adopted by the First International Conference of New or Restored Democracies[95] in June 1988,

*Considering* the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and other important principles, such as respect for the equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

*Recalling* its resolution 49/30 of 7 December 1994 in which it recognized the importance of the Managua Declaration[96] and Plan of Action[97] adopted by the Second International Conference of New or Restored Democracies in July 1994, as well as its resolutions 50/133 of 20 December 1995, 51/31 of 6 December 1996, 52/18 of 21 November 1997, 53/31 of 23 November 1998 and 54/36 of 29 November 1999,

*Recalling also* the document entitled "Progress Review and Recommendations", adopted by the Third International Conference of New or Restored Democracies on Democracy and Development, held in Bucharest from 2 to 4 September 1997,[98] in which guidelines, principles and recommendations were addressed to Governments, civil society, the private sector, donor countries and the international community,

*Taking note with satisfaction* of the seminars, workshops and conferences on democratization and good governance organized in 2000, as well as those held under the auspices of the International Conference of New or Restored Democracies,

*Taking note* of the views of Member States expressed in the debate on this question at its forty-ninth, fiftieth, fifty-first, fifty-second, fifty-third, fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth sessions,

*Bearing in mind* that the activities of the United Nations carried out in support of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate democracy are undertaken in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and only at the specific request of the Member States concerned,

*Bearing in mind also* that democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and on their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

*Noting* that a considerable number of societies have recently undertaken significant efforts to achieve their social, political and economic goals through democratization and the reform of their economies, pursuits that are deserving of the support and recognition of the international community,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the Fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies will be held in Cotonou, Benin, from 4 to 6 December 2000,

*Stressing* the importance of support by Member States, the United Nations system, the specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations for the holding of the Fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[99]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[99] and invites Member States to consider the proposals contained therein;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General, and through him the United Nations system, for the activities undertaken at the request of Governments to support the efforts to consolidate democracy and for his contribution to the preparatory process and success of the Fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies;

3. *Welcomes* the work carried out by the follow-up mechanism to the Third International Conference of New or Restored Democracies on Democracy and Development;

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[92] Resolution 217 A (III).

[93] See resolution 55/2.

[94] A/43/538, annex.

[95] Then called the International Conference of Newly Restored Democracies.

[96] A/49/713, annex I.

[97] Ibid., annex II.

[98] A/52/334, appendix.

[99] A/55/489.

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General, Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, programmes, funds and other bodies of the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental organizations, to collaborate in the holding of the Fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies;

5. *Recognizes* that the Organization has an important role to play in providing timely, appropriate and coherent support to the efforts of Governments to achieve democratization within the context of their development efforts;

6. *Stresses* that activities undertaken by the Organization must be in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the capacity of the Organization to respond effectively to the requests of Member States through coherent, adequate support of their efforts to achieve the goals of good governance and democratization;

8. *Encourages* Member States to promote democratization and to make additional efforts to identify possible steps to support the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies".

## RESOLUTION 55/44

Adopted at the 71st plenary meeting, on 27 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.16 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan

### 55/44. International cooperation and coordination for the human and ecological rehabilitation and economic development of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/169 M of 16 December 1997 and 53/1 H of 16 November 1998,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General,[100]

*Recognizing* that the Semipalatinsk nuclear testing ground, inherited by Kazakhstan and closed in 1991, remains a matter of serious concern for the people and Government of Kazakhstan with regard to its consequences for the lives and health of the people, especially children and other vulnerable groups, as well as for the environment of the region,

*Conscious* that the international community should pay due attention to the issue of the human, ecological and socio-economic dimensions of the situation in the Semipalatinsk region,

*Recognizing* the need to coordinate national and international efforts aimed at the rehabilitation of the health of the affected population and the environment in this region,

*Bearing in mind* the need for know-how in minimizing and mitigating radiological, health, socio-economic, psychological and environmental problems in the Semipalatinsk region,

*Recalling* the Almaty Declaration[101] of the heads of the Central Asian States of 28 February 1997, proclaiming 1998 as the Year of Environmental Protection in the region of Central Asia,

*Taking into consideration* the results of the international conference on the problems of the Semipalatinsk region, held in Tokyo in 1999, which have promoted the effectiveness of the assistance provided to the population of the region,

*Recognizing* the contribution of different organizations of the United Nations system, donor States, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to humanitarian assistance and the implementation of the projects aimed at the rehabilitation of the region,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[100] and the information about the measures taken to solve the health, ecological, economic and humanitarian problems and to meet the needs of the Semipalatinsk region;

2. *Stresses* the need for continuing international attention and extra efforts in solving problems with regard to the Semipalatinsk region and its population;

3. *Urges* the international community to provide assistance in the formulation and implementation of special programmes and projects of treatment and care for the affected population in the Semipalatinsk region;

4. *Invites* all States, relevant multilateral financial organizations and other entities of the international community, including non-governmental organizations, to share their knowledge and experience in order to contribute to the human and ecological rehabilitation and economic development of the Semipalatinsk region;

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[100] A/55/212.

[101] A/52/112, annex.

5. *Invites* all Member States, in particular donor States, relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system, including the funds and programmes, to participate in the rehabilitation of the Semipalatinsk region;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to pursue a consultative process, with the participation of interested States and relevant United Nations agencies, on modalities for mobilizing the necessary support to seek appropriate solutions to the problems and needs of the Semipalatinsk region, including those prioritized in the report of the Secretary-General;

7. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to enhance world public awareness of the problems and needs of the Semipalatinsk region;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

## RESOLUTION 55/45

Adopted at the 72nd plenary meeting, on 27 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.41 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan

### 55/45. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and rehabilitation in Tajikistan

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/30 J of 25 April 1997, 52/169 I of 16 December 1997, 53/1 K of 7 December 1998 and 54/96 A of 8 December 1999,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolutions 1113 (1997) of 12 June 1997, 1128 (1997) of 12 September 1997, 1138 (1997) of 14 November 1997, 1167 (1998) of 14 May 1998, 1206 (1998) of 12 November 1998, 1240 (1999) of 15 May 1999 and 1274 (1999) of 12 November 1999, and the statements by the President of the Security Council of 21 March[102] and 12 May 2000,[103]

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[104]

*Welcoming* the implementation of the main provisions of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan,[105]

*Recognizing with satisfaction* that the United Nations has played a successful and important role in the peace process and was instrumental in assisting the negotiation and implementation processes conducted under its aegis, believing that the United Nations should continue the assistance to Tajikistan in post-conflict peace-building, and welcoming in this regard the establishment of the United Nations Tajikistan Office for Peace-building,

*Noting with satisfaction* the efforts of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, which should be regarded as a successful operation, supported by the Contact Group of Guarantor States and International Organizations, the Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Collective Peacekeeping Forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States, in assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement,

*Noting* that, despite the conclusion of the peace process and significant progress in the security environment, the humanitarian situation has not improved, owing to the severe economic deterioration and the prevailing drought, and that significant humanitarian needs continue to exist throughout Tajikistan,

*Recognizing* that until the economy is able to support the Tajik population, humanitarian operations will remain a critical factor in strengthening the achievements of the peace process in Tajikistan,

*Expressing regret* that, despite the importance of humanitarian operations for contributing to peace and stability, donor response to both the 1999 and the 2000 consolidated inter-agency appeals has been insufficient,

*Stressing* that international funding for humanitarian operations is particularly important since such operations remain the principal means by which hundreds of thousands of Tajiks meet their basic needs,

*Noting with concern* the lack of support for food assistance and health programmes, which aim to save lives and must receive immediate funding if social catastrophe is to be avoided in Tajikistan,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[104] and endorses the observations and recommendations set out therein;

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[102] S/PRST/2000/9; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000*.

[103] S/PRST/2000/17; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000*.

[104] A/55/347.

[105] A/52/219-S/1997/510, annex I.

2. *Welcomes* the implementation of the main provisions of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan,[105] and the end of the transition period;

3. *Also welcomes* the continued role of the United Nations in post-conflict peace-building in Tajikistan and the establishment of the United Nations Tajikistan Office for Peace-building;

4. *Stresses* that Tajikistan has entered a new phase of post-conflict peace-building, which requires continued international economic assistance;

5. *Recognizes* that humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance remains crucial, not only to sustain life but also to promote development and prevent renewed conflict;

6. *Welcomes with appreciation* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in drawing the attention of the international community to the acute humanitarian problems of Tajikistan and in mobilizing assistance for the post-conflict rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction of the country;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to the States, the United Nations, the World Bank and other intergovernmental organizations and all relevant humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, that have responded and continue to respond positively to the humanitarian needs of Tajikistan;

8. *Encourages* Member States and others concerned to continue assistance to alleviate the urgent humanitarian needs of Tajikistan and to offer support to Tajikistan for the post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction of its economy;

9. *Warmly welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to continue the United Nations humanitarian programme in Tajikistan by issuing a consolidated inter-agency appeal for humanitarian assistance to Tajikistan for 2001, as a strategic document that will guide a gradual transition to a more development-oriented focus, and invites Member States to fund programmes included in the appeal;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to re-evaluate in 2001 all humanitarian assistance activities in Tajikistan with a view to addressing longer-term developmental issues;

11. *Stresses* the need to ensure the security and freedom of movement of humanitarian personnel, and of United Nations and associated personnel, as well as the safety and security of their premises, equipment and supplies;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to give special attention, in the dialogue with the multilateral lending institutions, to the humanitarian implications of their adjustment programmes in Tajikistan;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-sixth session the question of the situation in Tajikistan under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

## RESOLUTION 55/46

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.40 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam

### 55/46. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the special session of the General Assembly in this regard

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

*Stressing* the importance of the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly which reviewed and assessed the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[106] and the Programme of Action[107] and adopted further actions and initiatives to implement the commitments made at the Summit,[108]

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration[109] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the

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[106] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[107] Ibid., annex II.

[108] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[109] See resolution 55/2.

General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[110]

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments made by heads of State and Government at the World Summit for Social Development, contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[106] and the Programme of Action,[107] which established a new consensus to place people at the centre of the concerns for sustainable development and pledged to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration so as to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all, and the decisions on further action and initiatives to accelerate social development for all, adopted at the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and contained in the further initiatives for social development;[108]

2. *Also reaffirms* that the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and the further initiatives for social development adopted at the twenty-fourth special session will constitute the basic framework for the further promotion of social development in the forthcoming years;

3. *Emphasizes* the vital importance of placing the goals of social development, as contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the outcome document of the twenty-fourth special session, at the centre of economic policy-making, including in policies that influence domestic and global market forces and the global economy;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission for Social Development, the regional commissions, the relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to take on a priority basis all steps necessary to ensure the effective implementation of all commitments and undertakings contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the outcome document of the twenty-fourth special session;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government and people of Switzerland for contributing to the successful outcome of the twenty-fourth special session;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session;[111]

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on this question.

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[110] Resolutions S-23/2 and S-23/3.

[111] A/55/344.

## RESOLUTION 55/47

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.43/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, India, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Suriname, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Zambia

### 55/47. International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010

*The General Assembly*,

*Bearing in mind* the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially its dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

*Recalling* the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed,

*Recalling also* its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace, and resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001–2010 as the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World,

*Reaffirming* the Declaration[112] and Programme of Action[113] on a Culture of Peace, recognizing that they serve, inter alia, as the basis for the observance of the Decade, and convinced that effective and successful observance of the Decade throughout the world will promote a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World,[114]

*Taking note also* of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/66 of 26 April 2000, entitled "Towards a culture of peace",[115]

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[112] Resolution 53/243 A.

[113] Resolution 53/243 B.

[114] A/55/377.

[115] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

*Emphasizing* the particular relevance of the special session of the General Assembly for follow-up to the World Summit for Children, to be held in New York in 2001, the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in Durban, South Africa, in 2001, and the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, for the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010,

*Taking into account* the Manifesto 2000 initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization promoting a culture of peace, which has so far received over sixty million signatures of endorsement throughout the world,

1. *Recognizes* that the objective of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World is to further strengthen the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Year for the Culture of Peace in 2000;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the engagement of Member States, the United Nations system and civil society during the International Year for the Culture of Peace at the national, regional and global levels, and in this context recognizes the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as the focal point during the year;

3. *Invites* Member States to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, in particular during the Decade, at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence is fostered at all levels;

4. *Welcomes* the establishment of national committees and national focal points in over one hundred and sixty countries in the context of the observance of the International Year for the Culture of Peace, stresses the importance of their continued close involvement in furthering the objectives of the Declaration[112] and Programme of Action[113] on a Culture of Peace and in the effective observance of the Decade, and encourages the establishment of such bodies in the remaining countries;

5. *Designates* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as the lead agency for the Decade with responsibility for coordinating the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system to promote a culture of peace, as well as liaison with the other organizations concerned in this matter;

6. *Recognizes* the important role of relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund and the University for Peace, in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, particularly by means of special activities during the Decade at national, regional and international levels;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to disseminate widely in various languages the Declaration and Programme of Action and related materials, in particular throughout the Decade;

8. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to promote both formal and non-formal education at all levels that foster a culture of peace and non-violence;

9. *Invites* civil society at the local, regional and national levels to widen the scope of their activities to promote a culture of peace and non-violence, engaging in partnerships and sharing information, thus contributing to a global movement for a culture of peace, and encourages civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to further the objectives of the Decade by adopting their own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other global and regional organizations;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the media and of new information and communications technology in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, especially among children and young people;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session in 2005 a report on the observance of the Decade at its mid-point and on the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action, taking into account the views of Member States and in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant bodies of the United Nations system;

12. *Invites* civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to provide information to the Secretary-General on the observance of the Decade and the activities undertaken to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

13. *Decides* to devote one day of plenary meetings at its sixtieth session to consideration of the item, including a review of the progress made in the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action, as well as the observance of the Decade at its mid-point, with the participation of all relevant actors, as appropriate;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Culture of peace".

## RESOLUTION 55/48

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.15/Rev.2 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Cambodia, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nauru, Pakistan, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela

### 55/48. The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and the role of the United Nations in promoting international economic and social cooperation,

*Recognizing* that the well-being of people and the full development of their potential is the overall goal of sustainable development,

*Deeply concerned* about the growing disparities between rich and poor, both within and among countries, and about the adverse implications thereof for the promotion of human development throughout the world,

*Determined* to promote the economic and social advancement of all peoples, and convinced of the urgency of revitalizing international cooperation towards that end,

*Emphasizing* that countries are responsible for their development processes, and in this context stressing the responsibility of the international community, in partnership, to assist developing countries in their development efforts,

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,[116] adopted by the heads of State and Government at the conclusion of the Millennium Summit of the United Nations, in particular the goals and targets agreed therein for promoting development and poverty eradication,

*Taking note* of the Declaration of the South Summit adopted in Havana on 14 April 2000,[117] on, inter alia, the need for a new global human order aimed at reversing the growing disparities between rich and poor both among and within countries through the promotion of growth with equity, the eradication of poverty, the expansion of productive employment and the promotion of gender equality and social integration,

1. *Stresses* the need for a broad-based consensus for action within a comprehensive and holistic framework towards the achievement of the goals of development and poverty eradication involving all actors, namely Governments, the United Nations system and other international organizations, and relevant actors of civil society, including the private sector and non-governmental organizations;

2. *Notes with interest* the proposal regarding a new global human order;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States and of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system on the promotion of a new global human order, and to prepare a report thereon for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

4. *Decides* to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled, "The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order".

## RESOLUTION 55/49

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2000, by a recorded vote of 119 to none, with 1 abstention,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.39, sponsored by: Angola, Argentina, Benin, Brazil, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Namibia, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Togo, Uruguay

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* United States of America

### 55/49. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 41/11 of 27 October 1986, in which it solemnly declared the Atlantic Ocean, in the region between Africa and South America, a zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

*Recalling also* its subsequent resolutions on the matter, including resolution 45/36 of 27 November 1990, in which it reaffirmed the determination of the States of the zone to enhance and accelerate their cooperation in the political, economic, scientific, cultural and other spheres,

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[116] See resolution 55/2.

[117] A/55/74, annex I.

*Reaffirming* that the questions of peace and security and those of development are interrelated and inseparable and that cooperation for peace and development among States of the region will promote the objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

*Aware* of the importance that the States of the zone attach to the protection of the environment of the region, and recognizing the threat that pollution from any source poses to the marine and coastal environment, its ecological balance and its resources,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the purposes and objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic as a basis for the promotion of cooperation among the countries of the region;

2. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate in the promotion of the objectives established in the declaration of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic and to refrain from any action inconsistent with those objectives and with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the Organization, in particular actions that may create or aggravate situations of tension and potential conflict in the region;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with its resolution 54/35 of 24 November 1999;[118]

4. *Recalls* the agreement reached at the third meeting of the States members of the zone, held in Brasilia in 1994, to encourage democracy and political pluralism and, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[119] to promote and defend all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to cooperate towards the achievement of those goals;

5. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the holding of the fifth meeting of the States members of the zone in Buenos Aires, on 21 and 22 October 1998, and takes note of the Final Declaration and Plan of Action adopted at the meeting;[120]

6. *Welcomes* the progress towards the full entry into force of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[121] and of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);[122]

7. *Also welcomes* the entry into force of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials, adopted in November 1997,[123] and the adoption of the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions by the Organization of American States in June 1999;

8. *Further welcomes* the decision on the illicit proliferation, circulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons taken by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held in Algiers in July 1999,[124] as well as the decisions on the prevention and combating of illicit trafficking in small arms and related crimes taken by the Council of the Southern African Development Community at its nineteenth Summit of Heads of State or Government, held in Maputo in August 1999,[125] and the initiatives taken by States members of the Economic Community of West African States to conclude their agreement on a moratorium on the importing, exporting and manufacture of light weapons;

9. *Underlines* the fact that sustainable peace and security in Sierra Leone can only be achieved through the fulfilment of the broad objectives of the Peace Agreement signed in Lomé on 7 July 1999,[126] including full disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, the legitimate exploitation of natural resources of Sierra Leone for the benefit of its people, full respect for the human rights of all, national reconciliation, effective action on the issues of impunity and accountability, the full extension of the authority of the State of Sierra Leone, and a free and inclusive democratic process leading to elections;

10. *Reaffirms* the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and of all States in the region, and calls upon all the parties to the conflict to cease the hostilities and to fulfil their obligations under the Ceasefire Agreement signed in Lusaka;[127]

11. *Also reaffirms* the importance for Member States to contribute by all means at their disposal to an effective and lasting peace in Angola, and in that context reiterates that the primary cause of the present situation in Angola is the failure of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, under the leadership of Jonas Savimbi, to comply with its obligations under the Peace Accords,[128] the Lusaka Protocol[129] and relevant Security Council resolutions;

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[118] A/55/476.

[119] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[120] A/53/650, annex.

[121] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[122] See A/50/426, annex.

[123] A/53/78, annex.

[124] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Dec.137 (XXXV).

[125] A/54/488-S/1999/1082, annex.

[126] S/1999/777, annex.

[127] S/1999/815, annex.

[128] S/22609.

[129] S/1994/1441.

12. *Views with concern* the humanitarian effects on the civilian population of the present situation in Angola, commends in this regard the efforts of Member States, including the Government of Angola, and humanitarian organizations in rendering humanitarian assistance to Angola, and urges them to continue to provide and to increase such assistance;

13. *Welcomes* the return to constitutional and democratic order in Guinea-Bissau following the holding of free and fair presidential and legislative elections on 16 January 2000, and calls upon the international community and the Government of Guinea-Bissau to support the economic reconstruction of Guinea-Bissau and promote the consolidation of democracy there;

14. *Affirms* the importance of the South Atlantic to global maritime and commercial transactions and its determination to preserve the region for all peaceful purposes and activities protected by international law, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[130]

15. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their efforts towards the achievement of appropriate regulation of maritime transport of radioactive and toxic wastes, taking into account the interests of coastal States and in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the regulations of the International Maritime Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency;

16. *Views with concern* the increase in drug trafficking and related crimes, including drug abuse, and calls upon the international community and the States members of the zone to promote regional and international cooperation to combat all aspects of the problem of drugs and related offences;

17. *Recognizes*, in the light of the number, magnitude and complexity of natural disasters and other emergencies, the need to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance by States members of the zone, so as to ensure a timely and effective response;

18. *Welcomes* the offer by Benin to host the sixth meeting of the States members of the zone;

19. *Requests* the relevant organizations, organs and bodies of the United Nations system to render all appropriate assistance that States members of the zone may seek in their joint efforts to implement the declaration of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the implementation of resolution 41/11 and subsequent resolutions on the matter under review and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, taking into account, inter alia, the views expressed by Member States;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic".

## RESOLUTION 55/50

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 1 December 2000, by a recorded vote of 145 to 1, with 5 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.49 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel

*Abstentions:* Angola, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

### 55/50. Jerusalem

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 36/120 E of 10 December 1981, 37/123 C of 16 December 1982, 38/180 C of 19 December 1983, 39/146 C of 14 December 1984, 40/168 C of 16 December 1985, 41/162 C of 4 December 1986, 42/209 D of 11 December 1987, 43/54 C of 6 December 1988, 44/40 C of 4 December 1989, 45/83 C of 13 December 1990, 46/82 B of 16 December 1991, 47/63 B of 11 December 1992, 48/59 A of 14 December 1993, 49/87 A of 16 December 1994, 50/22 A of 4 December 1995, 51/27 of 4 December 1996, 52/53 of 9 December 1997, 53/37 of 2 December 1998 and 54/37 of 1 December 1999, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

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[130] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

*Recalling also* Security Council resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" and called upon those States which had established diplomatic missions in Jerusalem to withdraw such missions from the Holy City,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[131]

1. *Determines* that the decision of Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem is illegal and therefore null and void and has no validity whatsoever;

2. *Deplores* the transfer by some States of their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem in violation of Security Council resolution 478 (1980) and their refusal to comply with the provisions of that resolution;

3. *Calls once more upon* those States to abide by the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/51

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 1 December 2000, by a recorded vote of 96 to 2, with 55 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.50 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Andorra, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Yugoslavia

### 55/51. The Syrian Golan

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[132]

*Recalling* Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

*Reaffirming* the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming once more* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[133] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

*Deeply concerned* that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

*Stressing* the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

*Noting with satisfaction* the convening in Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

*Expressing grave concern* over the halt in the peace process on the Syrian track, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Also declares* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void

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[131] A/55/538.

[132] Ibid.

[133] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolution 497 (1981), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907,[134] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[133] continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;

6. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success by implementing Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/52

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 1 December 2000, by a recorded vote of 106 to 2, with 48 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.45 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia

### 55/52. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976, 32/40 A of 2 December 1977, 33/28 A and B of 7 December 1978, 34/65 A of 29 November 1979 and 34/65 C of 12 December 1979, ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980, 35/169 A and C of 15 December 1980, 36/120 A and C of 10 December 1981, ES-7/4 of 28 April 1982, 37/86 A of 10 December 1982, 38/58 A of 13 December 1983, 39/49 A of 11 December 1984, 40/96 A of 12 December 1985, 41/43 A of 2 December 1986, 42/66 A of 2 December 1987, 43/175 A of 15 December 1988, 44/41 A of 6 December 1989, 45/67 A of 6 December 1990, 46/74 A of 11 December 1991, 47/64 A of 11 December 1992, 48/158 A of 20 December 1993, 49/62 A of 14 December 1994, 50/84 A of 15 December 1995, 51/23 of 4 December 1996, 52/49 of 9 December 1997, 53/39 of 2 December 1998 and 54/39 of 1 December 1999,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[135]

*Recalling* the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, including its Annexes and Agreed Minutes, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[136] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, in particular the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on

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[134] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[135] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/55/35).

[136] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

28 September 1995,[137] and the Memorandum signed at Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 4 September 1999,

*Reaffirming* that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility with respect to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly;

2. *Considers* that the Committee can continue to make a valuable and positive contribution to international efforts to promote the Middle East peace process and the full implementation of the agreements reached and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people during the transitional period;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee contained in chapter VII of its report;[135]

4. *Requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly or the Security Council, as appropriate;

5. *Authorizes* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments, to give special emphasis to the need to mobilize support and assistance for the Palestinian people and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session and thereafter;

6. *Requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other non-governmental organizations in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and for a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, and to involve additional non-governmental organizations in its work;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee, and expresses appreciation for the cooperation between the Commission and the Committee with regard to the modernization and preservation of the records of the Commission;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

## RESOLUTION 55/53

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 1 December 2000, by a recorded vote of 107 to 2, with 48 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.46 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia

### 55/53. Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[138]

*Taking note in particular* of the relevant information contained in chapter V.B of that report,

*Recalling* its resolutions 32/40 B of 2 December 1977, 33/28 C of 7 December 1978, 34/65 D of 12 December 1979, 35/169 D of 15 December 1980, 36/120 B of 10 December 1981, 37/86 B of 10 December 1982, 38/58 B of 13 December 1983, 39/49 B of 11 December 1984, 40/96 B of 12 December

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[137] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

[138] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/55/35).

1985, 41/43 B of 2 December 1986, 42/66 B of 2 December 1987, 43/175 B of 15 December 1988, 44/41 B of 6 December 1989, 45/67 B of 6 December 1990, 46/74 B of 11 December 1991, 47/64 B of 11 December 1992, 48/158 B of 20 December 1993, 49/62 B of 14 December 1994, 50/84 B of 15 December 1995, 51/24 of 4 December 1996, 52/50 of 9 December 1997, 53/40 of 2 December 1998 and 54/40 of 1 December 1999,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 54/40;

2. *Considers* that the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a useful and constructive contribution;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to carry out its programme of work as detailed in the relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance, including, in particular, the organization of meetings in various regions with the participation of all sectors of the international community, the further development and expansion of the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, the preparation and widest possible dissemination of publications and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine, and the provision of the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Authority;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

5. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Committee and the Division in the performance of their tasks;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by Member States to observe annually on 29 November the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, requests them to continue to give the widest possible publicity to the observance, and requests the Committee and the Division to continue to organize, as part of the observance of the Day of Solidarity, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations.

## RESOLUTION 55/54

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 1 December 2000, by a recorded vote of 151 to 2, with 2 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.47 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of)

### 55/54. Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[139]

*Taking note in particular* of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/41 of 1 December 1999,

*Convinced* that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of non-governmental organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people,

*Aware* of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[140] and of the subsequent implementation agreements, in particular the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[141] and the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum of 4 September 1999, and their positive implications,

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[139] Ibid.

[140] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[141] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with resolution 54/41;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East in general, including the achievements of the peace process, and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of the peace process;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for the biennium 2000–2001, in particular:

*(a)* To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations;

*(b)* To continue to issue and update publications on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning the recent developments in that regard, in particular the prospects for peace;

*(c)* To expand its collection of audiovisual material on the question of Palestine and to continue the production of such material, including the updating of the exhibit in the Secretariat;

*(d)* To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the area, including the territories under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority and the occupied territories;

*(e)* To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists, aiming in particular at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine;

*(f)* To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular to strengthen the training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists initiated in 1995;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to promote the Bethlehem 2000 Project, within existing resources and until the Bethlehem 2000 commemoration comes to a close, including the preparation and dissemination of publications, audiovisual material and further development of the "Bethlehem 2000" site on the United Nations Internet home page.

## RESOLUTION 55/55

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 1 December 2000, by a recorded vote of 149 to 2, with 3 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.48 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru

### 55/55. Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including resolutions adopted at the tenth emergency special session,

*Recalling also* the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973,

*Aware* that it has been more than fifty years since the adoption of resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and thirty-three years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, in 1967,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General[142] submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 54/42 of 1 December 1999,

*Reaffirming* the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects,

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[142] A/55/639-S/2000/1113.

*Convinced* that achieving a final and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East,

*Aware* that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Affirming* the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

*Affirming also* the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the territory occupied since 1967 and of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem,

*Affirming once again* the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

*Recalling* the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, and the signing by the two parties of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[143] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[144]

*Recalling also* the withdrawal of the Israeli army, which took place in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area in 1995 in accordance with the agreements reached by the parties, and the initiation of the Palestinian Authority in those areas, as well as the subsequent redeployments of the Israeli army in the rest of the West Bank,

*Noting with satisfaction* the successful holding of the first Palestinian general elections,

*Noting* the signing of the Memorandum at Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 4 September 1999,

*Noting* the appointment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, and its positive contribution,

*Welcoming* the convening of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, as well as all follow-up meetings and the international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people, including the donor meeting held in Tokyo on 15 October 1999,

*Expressing its deep concern* over the tragic events in Occupied East Jerusalem and the Occupied Palestinian Territory since 28 September 2000, which have resulted in a high number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, and concerned also about the clashes between the Israeli armed forces and the Palestinian police and the casualties on both sides,

*Expressing its deep concern also* over the serious deterioration of the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the difficulties facing the Middle East peace process,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects;

2. *Expresses its full support* for the ongoing peace process which began in Madrid and the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 1993,[143] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip of 1995[144] and the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum of 1999, and expresses the hope that the process will lead to the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

3. *Stresses* the necessity for commitment to the principle of land for peace and the implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), which form the basis of the Middle East peace process, and the need for the immediate and scrupulous implementation of the agreements reached between the parties, including the redeployment of the Israeli forces from the West Bank, and calls for the speedy conclusion of the final settlement agreement between the two sides;

4. *Calls upon* the concerned parties, the co-sponsors of the peace process and other interested parties, as well as the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts and initiatives to reverse immediately all measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000, in implementation of the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings and in order to ensure a successful and speedy conclusion of the peace process;

5. *Stresses* the need for:

(*a*) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination;

(*b*) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967;

6. *Also stresses* the need for resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

7. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic and technical assistance to the Palestinian people during this critical period;

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[143] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[144] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

8. *Emphasizes* the importance for the United Nations to play a more active and expanded role in the current peace process and in the implementation of the Declaration of Principles;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, for the promotion of peace in the region and to submit progress reports on developments in this matter.

## RESOLUTION 55/56

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 1 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.52 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

### 55/56. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict: breaking the link between the illicit transaction of rough diamonds and armed conflict as a contribution to prevention and settlement of conflicts

*The General Assembly*,

*Expressing its concern* over the problem of conflict diamonds fuelling conflicts in a number of countries and the devastating impact of these conflicts on peace, safety and security for people in affected countries,

*Understanding* conflict diamonds to be rough diamonds which are used by rebel movements to finance their military activities, including attempts to undermine or overthrow legitimate Governments,

*Recognizing* that the vast majority of rough diamonds produced in the world are from legitimate sources,

*Recognizing also* that the legitimate trade in diamonds makes a critical contribution to economic development in many countries worldwide,

*Acknowledging* that the problem of conflict diamonds is of serious international concern, and that measures to address the problem should involve all concerned parties, including producing, processing, exporting and importing countries, as well as the diamond industry,

*Recognizing* the need to address the problem of rough diamonds originating from territories of diamond-producing countries under military occupation by another country,

*Emphasizing* that these measures should be effective and pragmatic, consistent with international law, including relevant trade provisions and commitments, and should not impede the current legitimate trade in diamonds or impose an undue burden on Governments or industry, particularly smaller producers, and not hinder the development of the diamond industry,

*Recalling* all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including its resolutions 1173 (1998) of 12 June 1998, 1295 (2000) of 18 April 2000 and 1306 (2000) of 5 July 2000, as well as resolution 1304 (2000) of 16 June 2000,

*Highlighting* the additional important initiatives already taken to address this problem, in particular by the Governments of Angola and Sierra Leone and by other key producing, processing, exporting and importing countries, as well as by the diamond industry and civil society, including the creation by the industry of the World Diamond Council,

*Welcoming with appreciation* the initiative by the African diamond-producing countries to launch an inclusive consultation process of Governments, industry and civil society, referred to as the Kimberley Process, to deal with the issue,

*Taking note* of the ministerial statement issued at the conclusion of the meeting on diamonds held in Pretoria on 21 September 2000,[145]

*Also taking note* of the communiqué issued by the London Intergovernmental Meeting on Conflict Diamonds, held on 25 and 26 October 2000,[146]

1. *Calls upon* all States to implement fully Security Council measures targeting the link between the trade in conflict diamonds and the supply to rebel movements of weapons, fuel or other prohibited materiel;

2. *Urges* all States to support efforts of the diamond producing, processing, exporting and importing countries and the diamond industry to find ways to break the link between conflict diamonds and armed conflict, and encourages other appropriate initiatives to this end, including improved international cooperation on law enforcement;

3. *Expresses* the need to give urgent and careful consideration to devising effective and pragmatic measures to address the problem of conflict diamonds, the elements of which would include:

(*a*) The creation and implementation of a simple and workable international certification scheme for rough diamonds;

(*b*) Basing the scheme primarily on national certification schemes;

(*c*) The need for national practices to meet internationally agreed minimum standards;

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[145] A/55/638, annex.

[146] A/55/628, annex.

(*d*) The aim of securing the widest possible participation;

(*e*) The need for diamond processing, exporting and importing States to act in concert;

(*f*) The need for appropriate arrangements to help to ensure compliance, acting with respect for the sovereignty of States;

(*g*) The need for transparency;

4. *Welcomes* the offer by the Government of Namibia to convene a workshop of the world's leading diamond processing, exporting and importing countries, continuing the momentum of the Kimberley Process to consider technical aspects pertaining to the envisaged international certification scheme for rough diamonds;

5. *Encourages* the countries participating in the Kimberley Process to consider expanding the membership of the Process in order to allow all key States with a significant interest in the world diamond industry to participate in further meetings, and to move ahead with the intergovernmental negotiating process to develop detailed proposals for the envisaged international certification scheme for rough diamonds, in close collaboration with the diamond industry and taking into account the views of relevant elements of civil society;

6. *Requests* the countries participating in the Kimberley Process to submit to the General Assembly, no later than at its fifty-sixth session, a report on progress made;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict".

## RESOLUTION 55/120

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.44/Rev.2 and Corr.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Zambia

### 55/120. Assistance in mine action

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993, 49/215 of 23 December 1994, 50/82 of 14 December 1995, 51/149 of 13 December 1996 and 52/173 of 18 December 1997, on assistance in mine clearance, and its resolutions 53/26 of 17 November 1998 and 54/191 of 17 December 1999, on assistance in mine action, all adopted without a vote,

*Considering* mine action to be an important component of United Nations humanitarian and development activities,

*Reaffirming its deep concern* at the tremendous humanitarian and development problems caused by the presence of mines and other unexploded devices that constitute an obstacle to the return of refugees and other displaced persons, to humanitarian aid operations and to reconstruction and economic development, as well as to the restoration of normal social conditions, and that have serious and lasting social and economic consequences for the populations of mine-affected countries,

*Bearing in mind* the serious threat that mines and other unexploded devices pose to the safety, health and lives of local civilian populations, as well as of personnel participating in humanitarian, peacekeeping and rehabilitation programmes and operations,

*Reiterating its dismay* at the high number of victims of mines, especially among civilian populations, including women and children, and recalling in this context Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1995/79 of 8 March 1995,[147] 1996/85 of 24 April 1996,[148] 1997/78 of 18 April 1997,[149] 1998/76 of 22 April 1998,[150] 1999/80 of 28 April 1999[151] and 2000/85 of 27 April 2000,[152] on the rights of the child, and resolutions 1996/27 of 19 April 1996,[148] 1998/31 of 17 April 1998,[150] 2000/51 of 25 April 2000[152] and decision 1997/107 of 11 April 1997,[149] on the human rights of persons with disabilities,

*Deeply alarmed* by the number of mines that continue to be laid each year, as well as the presence of a large number of mines and other unexploded devices as a result of armed conflicts, and thus convinced of the necessity and urgency of a significant increase in mine-clearance efforts by the international community with a view to eliminating the threat of landmines to civilians as soon as possible,

*Noting* the decisions taken at the First Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain

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[147] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[148] Ibid., *1996, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1996/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[149] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[150] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[151] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[152] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, held at Geneva from 15 to 17 December 1999,[153] particularly with respect to Protocol II to the Convention, and the inclusion in Amended Protocol II[154] of a number of provisions of importance for mine-clearance operations, notably the requirement of detectability,

*Noting also* the entry into force of Amended Protocol II to the Convention on 3 December 1998,

*Recalling* that the States parties at the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention declared their commitment to keep the provisions of the Protocol under review in order to ensure that the concerns regarding the weapons it covers are addressed, and that they would encourage the efforts of the United Nations and other organizations to address all problems related to landmines,

*Noting* that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[155] entered into force on 1 March 1999 and that the Convention has been signed or acceded to by one hundred and thirty-nine States and ratified by one hundred and nine States, noting also the conclusions of the Second Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, held at Geneva from 11 to 15 September 2000,[156] taking note of the reaffirmed commitments that were made, among other things, to provide assistance for mine clearance and rehabilitation, the social and economic reintegration of mine victims and mine-awareness programmes, and taking note also of the work of the intersessional programme established by States parties to the Convention,

*Stressing* the need to convince mine-affected States to halt new deployments of anti-personnel mines in order to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of mine-clearance operations,

*Recognizing* the important role that the international community, in particular States involved in the deployment of mines, can play in assisting mine clearance in mine-affected countries by providing necessary maps and information and appropriate technical and material assistance to remove or otherwise render ineffective existing minefields, mines and booby traps,

*Concerned* about the limited availability of safe and cost-effective mine-detection and mine-clearance equipment, as well as the need for effective global coordination in research and development to improve the relevant technology, and conscious of the need to promote further and more rapid progress in this field and to foster international technical cooperation to this end,

*Concerned also* about the limited availability of the technical, material and financial resources needed to meet the cost associated with mine-clearance activities in mine-affected countries,

*Recognizing* that, in addition to the primary role of States, the United Nations has an important role to play in the field of assistance in mine action,

*Reaffirming* the need to reinforce international cooperation in the area of mine action and to devote the necessary resources to that end,

*Concerned* about the critical financial situation of the Mine Action Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat,

*Welcoming* the mine-action coordination centres already established under the auspices of the United Nations, as well as the creation of international trust funds for mine clearance and mine assistance,

*Noting with satisfaction* the inclusion in the mandates of several peacekeeping operations of provisions relating to mine-action work carried out under the direction of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, in the context of such operations,

*Commending* the action already taken by the United Nations system, donor and recipient Governments, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations to coordinate their efforts and seek solutions to the problems related to the presence of mines and other unexploded devices, as well as their assistance to victims of mines,

*Commending also* the role of the Secretary-General in increasing public awareness of the problem of landmines,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations in assistance in mine action;[157]

2. *Calls*, in particular, for the continuation of the efforts of the United Nations, with the assistance of States and institutions as appropriate, to foster the establishment of mine-action capacities in countries where mines constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the local population or an impediment to social and economic development efforts at the national and local levels, emphasizes the importance of developing national mine-action capacities, and urges all Member States, in particular those that have the capacity to do so, to assist mine-affected countries in the establishment and development of national capacities in mine clearance, mine awareness and victim assistance;

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[153] See CCW/AP.II/CONF.1/2.

[154] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B.

[155] See CD/1478.

[156] See APLC/MSP.2/2000/1.

[157] A/55/542.

3. *Invites* Member States to develop national programmes, in cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system where appropriate, to promote awareness of landmines, especially among women and children;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors for their financial and in-kind contributions to mine action, including contributions for emergency operations and for national capacity-building programmes;

5. *Appeals* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors to continue their support to mine action through further contributions, including contributions through the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action, to allow for the timely delivery of mine-action assistance in emergency situations;

6. *Encourages* all relevant multilateral and national programmes and bodies to include, in coordination with the United Nations, activities related to mine action in their humanitarian, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance activities, where appropriate, bearing in mind the need to ensure national ownership, sustainability and capacity-building;

7. *Stresses* the importance of international support for emergency assistance to victims of mines and for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of the victims, and also stresses that such assistance should be integrated into broader public health and socio-economic strategies;

8. *Encourages* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies and other donors to take further action to promote gender- and age-appropriate mine-awareness programmes, victim assistance and child-centred rehabilitation, thereby reducing the number of child victims and relieving their plight;

9. *Emphasizes again* the important role of the United Nations in the effective coordination of mine-action activities, including those by regional organizations, and especially the role of the Mine Action Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat on the basis of the policy on mine action and effective coordination developed by the Secretary-General,[158] and stresses the need for the continuous assessment by the General Assembly of the United Nations in this regard;

10. *Emphasizes* in this regard the role of the Mine Action Service as the focal point for mine action within the United Nations system and its ongoing collaboration with and coordination of all the mine-related activities of the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;

11. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to develop further a comprehensive mine-action strategy, taking into consideration the impact of the landmine problem on rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, with a view to ensuring the effectiveness of assistance in mine action by the United Nations, emphasizes in this respect the importance of further multisectoral assessments and surveys, notes in this regard the ongoing development by the United Nations of standards and certification guidelines for such surveys, and emphasizes the need for an inclusive process to be followed in the development of such standards and guidelines;

12. *Emphasizes* in this respect the importance of developing a comprehensive information management system for mine action, under the overall coordination of the Mine Action Service and with the support of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, in order to facilitate the setting of priorities and the coordination of field activities;

13. *Welcomes* recent approaches with regard to the establishment of mine-action coordination centres, encourages the further establishment of such centres, especially in emergency situations, and also encourages States to support the activities of mine-action coordination centres and trust funds established to coordinate assistance in mine action under the auspices of the Mine Action Service;

14. *Encourages*, whenever appropriate, the use of the United Nations Office for Project Services by the United Nations, including in peacekeeping operations, in order to ensure the unity and continuity of implementation required for integrated mine-action programmes;

15. *Urges* Member States and regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to extend full assistance and cooperation to the Secretary-General and, in particular, to provide him with information and data, as well as other appropriate resources that could be useful in strengthening the coordination role of the United Nations in mine action, in particular in the fields of mine awareness, training, surveying, detection and clearance, scientific research on mine-detection and mine-clearance technology and information on and distribution of medical equipment and supplies;

16. *Emphasizes* in this regard the importance of recording the location of mines, of retaining all such records and making them available to concerned parties upon cessation of hostilities, and welcomes the strengthening of the relevant provisions in international law;

17. *Calls upon* Member States, especially those that have the capacity to do so, to provide the necessary information and technical, financial and material assistance, as appropriate, and to locate, remove, destroy or otherwise render ineffective minefields, mines, booby traps and other devices in accordance with international law, as soon as possible;

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[158] See A/53/496, annex II, and A/55/542.

18. *Urges* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations that have the ability to do so to provide, as appropriate, technological assistance to mine-affected countries and to promote scientific research and development on humanitarian mine-action techniques and technology so that mine-action activities may be carried out more effectively at lower costs and through safer means and to promote international collaboration in this regard;

19. *Encourages* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to support ongoing activities to promote appropriate technology, as well as international operational and safety standards for humanitarian mine-action activities, and in this context welcomes the initiation of the revision of international mine-clearance standards and the development of guidelines for the use of mine-detection dogs and mechanical mine-clearance equipment, as well as the development of an international test and evaluation programme;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a comprehensive report on the United Nations mine-action policy, including the progress achieved on relevant issues outlined both in his previous reports to the Assembly on assistance in mine clearance and mine action and in the present resolution, as well as the progress made by the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international and regional organizations as well as national programmes, and on the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action and other mine-action programmes;

21. *Invites* the Secretary-General to study how to secure a more sound financial basis for the Mine Action Service and to present options to this effect to the General Assembly;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action".

## RESOLUTION 55/145

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, by a recorded vote of 153 to 2, with 3 abstentions,* on the basis of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/55/23)

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* France, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of)

### 55/145. Dissemination of information on decolonization

*The General Assembly*,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[159]

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular resolution 54/92 of 6 December 1999,

*Recognizing* the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to achieving complete decolonization by 2000,

*Reiterating* the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

*Recognizing* the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Aware* of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat;

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[159] A/55/23 (Part II), chap. III. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

2. *Considers it important* to continue its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options of self-determination available for the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to take into account the suggestions of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(*a*) To continue to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(*c*) To maintain a working relationship with the appropriate regional and intergovernmental organizations, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, by holding periodic consultations and exchanging information;

(*d*) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(*e*) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to continue to extend their cooperation in the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to follow the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/146

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, by a recorded vote of 125 to 2, with 30 abstentions,* on the basis of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/55/23)

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey

### 55/146. Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* that 2000 marks the fortieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[160]

*Recalling also* its resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988, by which the General Assembly declared the period 1990–2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and recalling further resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, by which it adopted a plan of action for the Decade,[161]

*Bearing in mind* the related recommendations of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,[162] which proposed, inter alia, the declaration of a new decade for the elimination of colonialism, and which supported the effective implementation of the related plan of action,

*Bearing in mind also* the endorsement of the proposed declaration of a new decade for the eradication of colonialism by the participants in the Pacific regional seminar organized by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to review the political, economic and social conditions in the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories, held in Majuro, Marshall Islands, from 16 to 18 May 2000,[163]

*Taking into account* its resolution 54/90 A of 6 December 1999, in which it noted with concern that the plan of action for the International Decade could not be concluded by 2000,

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[160] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[161] See A/46/634/Rev.1, annex.

[162] A/54/917-S/2000/580, annex.

[163] See A/55/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

*Guided* by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[164] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[165]

*Having examined* the relevant reports of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of the plan of action for the International Decade,

*Taking into account* the important contribution of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, in particular through the Special Committee,

1. *Declares* the period 2001–2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to redouble their efforts to implement the plan of action, as contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General,[161] updated where necessary, to serve as the plan of action for the Second International Decade;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to develop a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

4. *Invites* Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, and other governmental and non-governmental organizations, actively to support and participate in the implementation of the plan of action during the Second International Decade;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources for the successful implementation of the plan of action;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/147

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, by a recorded vote of 138 to 2, with 18 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.58 and Add.1, sponsored by: Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Fiji, Kenya, Madagascar, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Saint Lucia, Solomon Islands, Syrian Arab Republic

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Belgium, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Turkey

### 55/147. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

*The General Assembly,*

*Having examined* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[166]

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, most recently resolution 54/91 of 6 December 1999, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Bearing in mind* the end of the first International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the declaration of the period 2001–2010 as the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and that it is necessary to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

*Recognizing* that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the Organization and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that begins in 2001,

*Reconfirming* the need to take measures to eliminate colonialism before 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000,

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[164] Resolution 217 A (III).

[165] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[166] A/55/23 (Parts I–III). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

*Reiterating its conviction* of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as of racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

*Noting with satisfaction* the achievements of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

*Stressing* the importance of the participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

*Noting with concern* that the non-participation of certain administering Powers has adversely affected the implementation of the mandate and work of the Special Committee,

*Noting with satisfaction* the cooperation and active participation of some administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

*Noting* that the other administering Powers have now agreed to work informally with the Special Committee,

*Taking note* of the consultations and agreements between the parties concerned in some Non-Self-Governing Territories and the action taken by the Secretary-General in relation to certain Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Aware* of the pressing need of newly independent and emerging States for assistance from the United Nations and its system of organizations in the economic, social and other fields,

*Aware also* of the pressing need of many of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, including in particular small island Territories, for economic, social and other assistance from the United Nations and the organizations of its system,

*Taking special note* of the fact that the Special Committee held a Pacific regional seminar to review the situation in the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly their political evolution towards self-determination for the year 2000 and beyond, in Majuro, Marshall Islands, from 16 to 18 May 2000,[167]

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 55/146, in which it declares the period 2001–2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all necessary steps to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;[168]

3. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[169]

4. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

5. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

6. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 2000, including the programme of work envisaged for 2001;[170]

7. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee to finalize before the end of 2001 a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

8. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out those actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and the Second International Decade in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(*a*) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

(*b*) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

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[167] See A/55/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

[168] A/55/497.

[169] Resolution 217 A (III).

[170] See A/55/23 (Part I), chap. I, sect. J. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

(*c*) To continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, including through the dispatch of visiting missions, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

(*d*) To finalize before the end of 2001 a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*e*) To take all necessary steps to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(*f*) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(*g*) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;[171]

9. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that all economic activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

11. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources, including land, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

12. *Reiterates* that military activities and arrangements by administering Powers in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration should not run counter to the rights and interests of the peoples of the Territories concerned, especially their right to self-determination, including independence, calls upon the administering Powers concerned to terminate such activities and to eliminate the remaining military bases in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and also calls upon the administering Powers to promote alternative sources of livelihood for the peoples of the Territories concerned;

13. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests that the administering Powers take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

14. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

15. *Calls upon* the administering Powers that have not participated formally in the work of the Special Committee to do so at its session in 2001;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as of the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

## RESOLUTION 55/162

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.56/Rev.1, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

### 55/162. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000,

*Having considered* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

*Expressing satisfaction* that, for the first time in history, so many heads of State and Government gathered at a summit in

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[171] See resolution 2911 (XXVII).

New York, which reached a successful conclusion with the adoption of the Millennium Declaration,

*Stressing* the need for maintaining the political will and momentum of the Millennium Summit at the national, regional and international levels in order to translate commitments into concrete action,

*Recognizing* the necessity for creating a framework for the implementation of the Millennium Declaration,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Stressing* the importance of a comprehensive and balanced approach in implementation and follow-up,

1. *Calls* for an integrated, coordinated, comprehensive and balanced approach in the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration at the national, regional and international levels;

2. *Recognizes* that Governments bear the main responsibility, individually and collectively, for action and implementation of the Millennium Declaration;

3. *Calls upon* the entire United Nations system to assist Member States in every way possible in the implementation of the Millennium Declaration;

4. *Decides* to use existing structures and mechanisms and upcoming events and special sessions of the General Assembly, as well as related conferences and events, to the maximum extent possible in the implementation of the Millennium Declaration, and requests the President of the General Assembly to follow up these processes;

5. *Requests* the Main Committees of the General Assembly to ensure that the outcome of the Millennium Summit is taken into account in their work;

6. *Calls upon* all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to become involved in the follow-up to the Summit, and invites specialized agencies and related organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen and adjust their activities, programmes and medium-term strategies, as appropriate, to take into account the follow-up to the Summit;

7. *Invites* the regional commissions, in cooperation with regional intergovernmental organizations and regional development banks, to review progress made towards implementing the Millennium Declaration;

8. *Requests* the United Nations system to take action to meet the special needs of Africa and to strengthen the broad range of its engagement in Africa, with a view to intensifying support for poverty eradication and sustainable development, for combating diseases and pandemics and for the process of conflict prevention and the consolidation of democracy;

9. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Millennium Declaration will require resources and adequate financing at the national, regional and international levels and that additional financial resources are needed, in particular in Africa and the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States;

10. *Requests* the appropriate bodies to consider urgently how the implementation of the Millennium Declaration should relate to the biennial budget process and the medium-term plan;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure system-wide coordination to assist with the implementation of the Millennium Declaration, and invites him to identify, within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, innovative ways of enhancing cooperation and coherence throughout the United Nations system;

12. *Invites* the Bretton Woods institutions to become involved actively in the implementation of and follow-up to the Summit and to enhance their cooperation with other parts of the United Nations system for coherent implementation of the Millennium Declaration;

13. *Invites* the World Trade Organization to contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Declaration;

14. *Calls* for enhanced partnership and cooperation with national parliaments as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as set out in the Millennium Declaration, to ensure their contribution to the implementation of the Declaration;

15. *Requests* the specialized agencies, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization to keep the General Assembly informed about how they contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Declaration;

16. *Requests* that the events and conferences referred to in paragraph 4 above keep the General Assembly informed about how they contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Declaration;

17. *Reiterates* the call to assess, on a regular basis, progress towards implementing the Millennium Declaration;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General urgently to prepare a long-term "road map" towards the implementation of the Millennium Declaration within the United Nations system and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report every five years, supplemented by an annual report on progress achieved towards implementing the Millennium Declaration, taking into account the following:

(*a*) The annual reports should reflect the broad array of specific goals and commitments enunciated in the Millennium Declaration, though each could explore in greater depth one or two areas covered in the Declaration;

(*b*) All reports should focus, in this respect, on the results and benchmarks achieved, identify gaps in implementation and strategies for reducing them, and highlight in particular cross-sectoral issues and cross-cutting themes on development and peace and security;

(*c*) Reports should draw on the work of the entire United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization;

(*d*) The reporting system should be appraised with a view to strengthening its coherence and integration;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit".

## RESOLUTION 55/163

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.38/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Argentina, Belize, Bulgaria, China, Cuba, Gabon, Gambia, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sudan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

### 55/163. International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, which contains in its annex the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, and its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997 and 54/219 and 54/233 of 22 December 1999, and recalling agreed conclusions 1999/1 of the Economic and Social Council[172] and Council resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,[173]

*Recognizing* the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

*Emphasizing* that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory, and in the faciliatation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

*Emphasizing also* the responsibility of all States to undertake disaster preparedness and mitigation efforts in order to minimize the impact of natural disasters,

*Emphasizing further*, in this regard, the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected State in dealing with natural disasters in all its phases,

*Stressing* the need to optimize and disseminate the listings of organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and scientific organizations, as well as the need to develop further a directory of the specialized national, regional and international institutions and agencies working in the field of international response to natural disasters, together with an inventory of national capacities, in order to lay the foundation for an efficient and effective use of resources available and collaborative efforts,

*Noting* the establishment of the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the need to strengthen cooperation and coordination among all relevant bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, in dealing with all phases of natural disasters,

1. *Expresses deep concern* at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disaster;

2. *Stresses* that humanitarian assistance for natural disasters should be provided in accordance with and with due respect for the guiding principles contained in the annex to resolution 46/182 and should be determined on the basis of the human dimension and needs arising out of the particular natural disasters;

3. *Calls upon* all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters, inter alia, by disaster prevention, including building regulations and appropriate land use, as well as disaster preparedness and capacity-building in disaster response, and requests the international community in this context to continue to assist developing countries, where appropriate;

4. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation in the provision of humanitarian assistance for all phases of a disaster, from relief and mitigation to development, including through the provision of adequate resources;

5. *Recognizes* that economic growth and sustainable development contribute to improving the capacity of States to mitigate, respond to and prepare for natural disasters;

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[172] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI, para. 5.

[173] A/55/82-E/2000/61.

6. *Stresses* the need to strengthen efforts at all levels, including at the domestic level, to improve natural disaster awareness, prevention, preparedness and mitigation, including early warning systems, as well as international cooperation in response to emergencies, from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, bearing in mind the overall negative impact of natural disasters, the resulting humanitarian need and requests from affected countries, as appropriate;

7. *Recognizes* efforts by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and other members of the United Nations system in promoting preparedness for response at the national, regional and international levels and in strengthening the mobilization and coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system in the field of natural disasters, and in this context welcomes the expansion of the United Nations disaster assessment and coordination teams to include experts from all areas of the world;

8. *Notes* that the transition phase after natural disasters is often excessively long and characterized by a number of gaps and that Governments, in cooperation with relief agencies, as appropriate, when planning for meeting immediate needs, should place these needs in the perspective of sustainable development whenever such an approach is possible, and in this context takes note of the work of the United Nations disaster assessment and coordination teams;

9. *Encourages* enhanced cooperation among Governments, in particular through the United Nations and regional organizations, in order to strengthen early warning and preparedness mechanisms for natural disasters;

10. *Encourages* Governments, in particular through their disaster management or response agencies, as appropriate, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator to maximize the effectiveness of the international response to natural disasters, based, inter alia, on humanitarian need, from relief to development, and also to maximize the effectiveness of disaster preparedness and mitigation efforts at all levels;

11. *Encourages* further cooperation between the United Nations system and regional organizations in order to increase the capacity of those organizations to respond to natural disasters;

12. *Encourages* States that have not signed or ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations, adopted at Tampere, Finland, on 18 June 1998,[174] to consider doing so;

13. *Stresses* the need for partnership among Governments of the affected countries, relevant humanitarian organizations and specialized companies to promote training in, access to and use of technologies to strengthen preparedness for and response to natural disasters and to enhance the transfer of current technologies and corresponding know-how, in particular to developing countries, on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed;

14. *Encourages* the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies for the prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate;

15. *Also encourages* in such operations the sharing of geographical data, including remotely sensed images and geographic information system and global positioning system data among Governments, space agencies and relevant international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, and also notes in this context the work being done by the Global Disaster Information Network;

16. *Further encourages* compatibility and complementarity of telecommunications and other technological equipment required in humanitarian and disaster relief operations;

17. *Stresses* the need to ensure close links, as set out in resolution 54/219, between disaster prevention activities and the improvement of natural disaster preparedness and response;

18. *Encourages* Governments in natural-disaster-prone countries to establish, with the support of the international community, in particular the donors, national spatial information infrastructures relating to natural disaster preparedness, early warning, response and mitigation, including the necessary training of personnel;

19. *Encourages* innovative efforts that link various phases of international assistance, from relief to development, such as the joint Disaster Response and Recovery Mission undertaken by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization and Pan American Health Organization in all countries affected by hurricane Mitch, and reiterates the need to ensure adequate assessment of and follow-up to these approaches, with a view to further developing and applying them, as appropriate, in other natural disasters;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with relevant bodies of the United Nations system, to prepare recommendations on how to improve the potential of the United

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[174] United Nations Treaty registration No. 27688.

Nations to mitigate natural disasters including, in particular, through the development of an inventory of the existing capacities at the national, regional and international levels;

21. *Notes* the submission by the Secretary-General of his note on enhancing the functioning and utilization of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund,[175] pursuant to the request contained in resolutions 54/95 of 8 December 1999 and 54/233 for concrete proposals for enhancing the functioning and utilization of the Fund and the invitation to consider more active use of the Fund for timely and adequate natural disaster response, and decides to consider the note comprehensively at its fifty-sixth session;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider innovative mechanisms to improve the international response to natural disasters, inter alia, by addressing any geographical and sectoral imbalances in such a response where they exist, as well as more effective use of national emergency response agencies, taking into account their comparative advantages and specializations, as well as existing arrangements, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", with a view, inter alia, to contributing towards the comprehensive report on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, to be submitted to the Assembly at that session under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

## RESOLUTION 55/164

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.54 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela

### 55/164. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council of 1998 and 1999,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[176]

*Welcoming* the progress made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,

*Noting* the efforts made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to implement fully the recommendations set forth in agreed conclusions 1998/1[177] and 1999/1[178] of the Council,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the third humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council during its substantive session of 2000;

2. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to continue to consider ways to further enhance the humanitarian affairs segment of future sessions of the Council;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of discussion of humanitarian policies and activities in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

4. *Calls upon* relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations, Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Emergency Relief Coordinator to ensure timely implementation of and follow-up to agreed conclusions 1998/1[177] and 1999/1;[178]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the 2001 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including the implementation of and follow-up to agreed conclusions 1998/1 and 1999/1.

## RESOLUTION 55/165

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.35/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela

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[175] A/55/649.

[176] A/55/82-E/2000/61.

[177] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum and addendum (A/53/3 and Corr.1 and Add.1), chap. VII, para. 5.

[178] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI, para. 5.

### 55/165. Emergency assistance to Belize

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 42/169 of 11 December 1987, 43/202 of 20 December 1988, 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 45/185 of 21 December 1990, 46/149 of 18 December 1991, 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 48/188 of 21 December 1993 and 49/22 A of 2 December 1994,

*Having been made aware* of the extensive damage caused by powerful hurricane Keith during its landfall and passage through Belize from 1 to 3 October 2000,

*Mindful* of the human suffering caused by the displacement of thousands of people due to the loss of homes,

*Aware* of the devastating effect that the continuing emergency, due to flooding, is having on the infrastructure of the country, its agricultural and fisheries sectors and the delivery of health and social services,

*Noting* the enormous efforts required to alleviate the devastation caused by this natural disaster,

*Cognizant* of the efforts of the Government and people of Belize to relieve the suffering of the victims of hurricane Keith,

*Conscious* of the rapid response being made by the Government of Belize, the agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, international and regional agencies, non-governmental organizations and private individuals to provide relief,

*Underlining* the importance of efforts aimed at strengthening early warning, prevention and preparedness mechanisms for natural disasters and measures to strengthen capacity-building at the local, national and regional levels, with an emphasis on risk reduction,

*Aware* that the extent of the disaster and its medium-term and long-term effects will require, as a complement to the efforts being made by the Government and people of Belize, a demonstration of international solidarity and humanitarian concern to ensure broad multilateral cooperation in order to facilitate the transition from the immediate emergency situation in the affected areas to the process of reconstruction,

1. *Expresses its solidarity and support* to the Government and people of Belize;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to all States of the international community, international agencies and non-governmental organizations that are providing emergency relief assistance to Belize;

3. *Urges* Member States, as a matter of urgency, to contribute generously to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of Belize;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the international financial institutions, agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, to assist the Government of Belize in identifying medium-term and long-term needs and in mobilizing resources, as well as to help with the efforts towards rehabilitation and reconstruction of the affected areas in Belize;

5. *Encourages* the Government of Belize, in conjunction with relevant partners, further to develop strategies aimed at preventing and mitigating natural disasters;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all necessary arrangements to continue mobilizing and coordinating humanitarian assistance from the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with a view to supporting the efforts of the Government of Belize.

## RESOLUTION 55/166

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.36 and Add.1, sponsored by: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Madagascar, Mauritania, Namibia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United States of America, Zambia, Zimbabwe

### 55/166. Special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/169 A of 16 December 1997, 53/1 L of 7 December 1998 and 54/96 B of 8 December 1999,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolutions 1234 (1999) of 9 April 1999, 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999, 1273 (1999) of 5 November 1999, 1279 (1999) of 30 November 1999, 1291 (2000) of 24 February 2000, 1304 (2000) of 16 June 2000, 1316 (2000) of 23 August 2000 and 1323 (2000) of 13 October 2000, the statement adopted by the Council at its meeting of 7 September 2000, held at the level of heads of State and Government,[179] and all previous statements by its President relating to the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

*Recalling further* the Ceasefire Agreement signed in Lusaka[180] and the Kampala disengagement plan[181] and the obligations of all signatories to those agreements and the obligations deriving from Security Council resolution 1304 (2000),

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[179] S/PRST/2000/28; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000*.

[180] S/1999/815, annex.

[181] See S/2000/330 and Corr.1, paras. 21–28.

*Reaffirming* the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and all States in the region,

*Alarmed* at the plight of the civilian population throughout the country, and calling for its protection,

*Gravely concerned* at the deteriorating economic and social situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the eastern Congo, and at the effect of the continued fighting on the inhabitants of the country,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the dire consequences of the conflict for the humanitarian and human rights situation, as well as at the reports of the illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

*Urging* all parties to respect and protect human rights and respect international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 1949[182] and the additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[183]

*Deeply concerned* about the continuing extensive destruction of life and property, as well as the severe damage to infrastructure and the environment suffered by the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

*Bearing in mind* that the Democratic Republic of the Congo also suffers from the problems encountered by a country that has received thousands of refugees from neighbouring countries,

*Recalling* that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a least developed country with severe economic and social problems arising from its weak economic infrastructure and aggravated by the ongoing conflict,

*Bearing in mind* the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and security and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and to take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy, and reaffirming the urgent need to assist the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of its damaged economy and in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[184]

2. *Urges* all parties concerned in the region to cease all military activity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo which breaches the ceasefire provided for in the Ceasefire Agreement signed in Lusaka[180] and the Kampala disengagement plan[181] and to implement fully those agreements and create the conditions necessary for the speedy and peaceful resolution of the crisis, and also urges all parties to engage in a process of political dialogue and negotiation;

3. *Encourages* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to pursue sound macroeconomic policies and to promote good governance and the rule of law, and urges the Government to exert all efforts for economic recovery and reconstruction despite the ongoing armed conflict;

4. *Renews its invitation* to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to cooperate with the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations in addressing the need for rehabilitation and reconstruction, and stresses the need for the Government to assist and protect the civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons within the territory of that country regardless of their origin;

5. *Urges* all parties to respect fully the provisions of international humanitarian law and, in this regard, to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the safety of United Nations and humanitarian personnel;

6. *Renews its urgent appeal* to the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to keep under consideration the special needs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

7. *Invites* Governments to continue to provide support to the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To continue to consult urgently with regional leaders, in coordination with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, about ways to bring about a peaceful and durable solution to the conflict;

(*b*) To continue to consult with regional leaders, in coordination with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, in order to convene, when appropriate, an international conference on peace, security and development in Central Africa and in the Great Lakes region, under the auspices of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, to address the problems of the region in a comprehensive manner;

(*c*) To keep under review the economic situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with a view to promoting participation in and support for a programme of financial and material assistance to the country to enable it to meet its urgent needs in terms of economic recovery and reconstruction;

(*d*) To submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution.

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[182] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[183] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[184] A/55/319.

## RESOLUTION 55/167

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.53 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Seychelles, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Zambia, Zimbabwe

### 55/167. Assistance to Mozambique

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* Security Council resolution 386 (1976) of 17 March 1976,

*Recalling also* its relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 45/227 of 21 December 1990, 47/42 of 9 December 1992, 49/21 D of 20 December 1994, 51/30 D of 5 December 1996 and 53/1 G of 16 November 1998, in which it urged the international community to respond effectively and generously to the call for assistance to Mozambique,

*Reaffirming* the principles for humanitarian assistance contained in the annex to its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991,

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993, 49/215 of 23 December 1994, 50/82 of 14 December 1995, 51/149 of 13 December 1996 and 52/173 of 18 December 1997 on assistance in mine clearance, and stressing the need to foster the establishment of national mine-clearance capacity with a view to enabling the Government of Mozambique to deal more effectively with the adverse effects of those weapons within the framework of the efforts for national reconstruction,

*Recalling also* its resolution 54/96 L of 10 March 2000 on assistance to Mozambique following the devastating floods,

*Deeply concerned* at the unprecedented floods in Mozambique, which have resulted in tragic loss of human lives and extensive destruction of property and infrastructure,

*Deeply concerned also* at the impact of the disaster on the economic, social and humanitarian situation in Mozambique,

*Recognizing* that natural disasters constitute one of the major problems for the development of Mozambique,

*Aware* that, to prevent and manage natural disasters, strategies at local, national and regional levels are required, in addition to international assistance,

*Bearing in mind* the Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on 14 September 1990,[185] and the mutual commitment entered into on that occasion,

*Noting with appreciation* the mobilization and allocation of resources by States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to assist national efforts,

*Noting with satisfaction* the full support by the international community of the post-emergency reconstruction programme presented by the Government of Mozambique at the International Reconstruction Conference for Mozambique, organized by the United Nations Development Programme and the Government of Mozambique, which was held in Rome on 3 and 4 May 2000,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Mozambique,[186] and his report on assistance to Mozambique following the devastating floods,[187]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Mozambique[186] and his report on assistance to Mozambique following the devastating floods;[187]

2. *Welcomes* the assistance rendered to Mozambique by various States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and private individuals and groups to assist national development efforts, and their full support for the post-emergency reconstruction programme presented by the Government of Mozambique at the International Reconstruction Conference for Mozambique;

3. *Also welcomes* the progress made in the consolidation of a lasting peace and tranquillity, the enhancement of democracy and the promotion of national reconciliation in Mozambique;

4. *Notes* the importance of the International Reconstruction Conference for funding for the reconstruction programme, welcomes the pledges made by the development partners for the post-emergency programme, expresses its gratitude to the development partners that have already disbursed the pledged funds, and urges others to speed up the process;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all necessary arrangements to continue to mobilize and coordinate, with a view to supporting the efforts of the Government of Mozambique:

(*a*) Humanitarian assistance from the specialized agencies, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system;

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[185] A/CONF.147/18, part one.

[186] A/55/317.

[187] A/55/123-E/2000/89.

(*b*) International assistance for the national reconstruction and development of Mozambique;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to it, for consideration at its fifty-seventh session, under the item on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance, through the Economic and Social Council at the humanitarian segment of its substantive session in 2002, on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/168

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.55/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Belgium, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

### 55/168. Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 43/206 of 20 December 1988, 44/178 of 19 December 1989, 45/229 of 21 December 1990, 46/176 of 19 December 1991, 47/160 of 18 December 1992, 48/201 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 L of 20 December 1994, 50/58 G of 20 December 1995, 51/30 G of 13 December 1996, 52/169 L of 16 December 1997, 53/1 M of 8 December 1998 and 54/96 D of 8 December 1999 as well as the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council on emergency assistance to Somalia,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolution 733 (1992) of 23 January 1992 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, in which the Council, inter alia, urged all parties, movements and factions in Somalia to facilitate the efforts of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and humanitarian organizations to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the affected population in Somalia, and reiterated the call for the full respect of the security and safety of the personnel of those organizations and guarantee of their complete freedom of movement in and around Mogadishu and other parts of Somalia,

*Recalling further* the statement by the President of the Security Council of 29 June 2000[188] in which, inter alia, the Security Council expressed its full support for the efforts exerted by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development to find a political solution to the situation in Somalia, underlined the importance of the widest participation of the representatives of all parts of Somali society, strongly urged representatives of all social and political forces of Somali society to participate actively, urged the warlords and faction leaders to desist from obstructing and undermining efforts to achieve peace, and also urged all States to stop providing those individuals with the means to carry on their destructive activities,

*Noting* the cooperation between the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the European Union, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the countries members of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and its Partners Forum, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and others in their efforts to resolve the humanitarian, security and political crisis in Somalia,

*Noting with appreciation* the continued efforts made by the Secretary-General to assist the Somali people in their efforts to promote peace, stability and national reconciliation,

*Commending* the initiative of the President of the Republic of Djibouti aiming at restoring peace and stability in Somalia, and noting with appreciation the efforts of the Government and people of Djibouti in hosting and facilitating the Somalia National Peace Conference, held in Arta, Republic of Djibouti,

*Welcoming* the outcome of the Arta peace process, led by Djibouti and sponsored by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, which provides for the establishment of a transitional national parliament and the formation of a transitional national government,

*Noting with appreciation* that the mandate provided in the three-year transitional national charter emphasizes priorities, including reconciliation, demobilization of armed militia, restitution of properties to their lawful owners, holding of a national census, formulation of a new constitution, democratization, rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the transitional Government of Somalia to promote national reconciliation within Somalia, recognizing that progress has been achieved in some regions in re-establishing economic and administrative stability and encouraging the peaceful cooperation of all political groups with the new transitional Government towards this end,

*Noting with concern* that the lack of effective civil institutions in Somalia continues to impede sustained comprehensive development and that, while the environment has become more conducive to some reconstruction and development-oriented work in certain parts of the country, the humanitarian and security situation has remained fragile in other parts,

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[188] S/PRST/2000/22; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000*.

*Reaffirming its support* for the joint strategy for targeted assistance of the United Nations system that is focused on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of infrastructure and on sustainable community-based activities, as well as for the importance it attaches to the need for effective coordination and cooperation among the United Nations agencies and their partners,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[189]

*Deeply appreciative* of the humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation support rendered by a number of States and relevant organizations to alleviate the hardship and suffering of the affected Somali population,

*Recognizing* that, while the humanitarian situation remains fragile in some parts of Somalia, there is a need to continue the ongoing rehabilitation and reconstruction process alongside the national reconciliation process, without prejudice to the provision of emergency relief assistance wherever and whenever required, as security allows,

*Noting with appreciation* that the prospects for humanitarian, rehabilitation and development activities have been more favourable in some parts of the country, owing to the formation of stronger administrative structures, the commitment shown to re-establishing the rule of law in general, and the leadership shown by some regional authorities and by civil society groups in attempting to establish an inclusive alternative to the faction-ridden past of Somalia,

*Noting with appreciation also* the efforts of the United Nations system aimed at working directly with Somali communities at the local level, whenever possible, and emphasizing the need for coordination with the transitional Government and with local and regional authorities,

*Welcoming* the continued focus of the United Nations, in partnership with Somali elders, other local leaders and skilled local counterparts at the grass-roots level and non-governmental organizations, on a programme of assistance, including both humanitarian and developmental approaches, given the varying conditions in different areas,

*Re-emphasizing* the importance of the further implementation of its resolution 47/160 to rehabilitate basic social and economic services at the local and regional levels throughout the country,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to all States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have responded to the appeals of the Secretary-General and others by extending assistance to Somalia;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued and tireless efforts to mobilize assistance to the Somali people;

3. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the European Union, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the countries members of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and its Partners Forum, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and others to resolve the situation in Somalia;

4. *Also welcomes* the strategy of the United Nations focusing on the implementation of community-based interventions aimed at rebuilding local infrastructures and increasing the self-reliance of the local population, and the ongoing efforts by the United Nations agencies, their Somali counterparts and their partner organizations to establish and maintain close coordination and cooperation mechanisms available for the implementation of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the holistic and prioritized approach of the United Nations system to addressing the continuing crisis in some parts of Somalia, while making long-term commitments to rehabilitation, recovery and development activities in more stable parts;

6. *Emphasizes* the principle that the Somali people have the primary responsibility for their own development and for the sustainability of rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance programmes, and reaffirms the importance it attaches to the creation of workable arrangements for collaboration between the United Nations system and its partner organizations and their Somali counterparts for the effective execution of rehabilitation and development activities in those parts of the country in which peace and security prevail;

7. *Urges* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to continue to implement further its resolution 47/160 in order to assist the Somali people in embarking on the rehabilitation of basic social and economic services, as well as institution-building aimed at the restoration of civil administration at all levels in all parts of the country in which peace and security prevail;

8. *Strongly urges* all political groups in Somalia, in particular those which have remained outside the Arta peace process, to participate in the ongoing peace process and to establish a constructive dialogue with the new transitional Government, in order to achieve national reconciliation that allows for transition from relief to reconstruction and development and preserves economic and administrative progress achieved in many regions;

9. *Calls upon* all parties, individual political leaders and factions in Somalia to respect fully the security and safety of personnel of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and of non-governmental organizations, and to guarantee their

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[189] A/55/415.

complete freedom of movement and safe access throughout Somalia;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize international humanitarian, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to provide continuing and increased assistance in response to the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia, covering the period from October 2000 to December 2001;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the critical situation in Somalia, to take all necessary measures for the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/169

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.57 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

### 55/169. Humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, and reaffirming that humanitarian assistance should be provided in accordance with the guiding principles contained in the annex to that resolution,

*Recalling also* its resolution 54/96 F of 15 December 1999,

*Deeply appreciative* of the humanitarian assistance and the rehabilitation support rendered by a number of States, in particular major contributors, international agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to alleviate the humanitarian needs of the affected population in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in particular emergency assistance packages provided by the European Union, participants in the FOCUS humanitarian relief initiative and other countries,

*Deeply concerned* about the continuing urgency of the humanitarian situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, aware of the magnitude of the humanitarian requirements of the country, and recognizing the need to ensure effective links between relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

*Aware* of the persisting gravity of the situation of socially and economically vulnerable segments of the population, including refugees and displaced persons, coupled with significantly decreased social services capacity, especially in the health sector,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[190]

*Taking note also* of the report prepared by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in Belgrade entitled "Background on the Energy Sector in Serbia for Winter 2000–2001",[191]

*Recognizing* the role of the United Nations in solving the humanitarian problems facing the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and in coordinating the efforts of the international community to provide humanitarian assistance to the country,

*Welcoming* the admission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe on 26 October 2000,

*Welcoming also* the admission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to membership in the United Nations on 1 November 2000,

1. *Calls upon* all States, regional organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies to provide humanitarian assistance to alleviate the humanitarian needs of the affected population in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, especially during the coming winter months, bearing in mind in particular the special situation of women, as well as children and other vulnerable groups;

2. *Also calls upon* all States, regional organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies to offer support to the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in its efforts to ensure the transition from relief to the longer-term goals of rehabilitation, reconstruction and development of the country;

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of, and encourages the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to continue to cooperate with the United Nations system and humanitarian organizations to address the humanitarian needs of the affected population, including refugees and internally displaced persons, and urges the relevant authorities and the international community to support programmes to ensure that the humanitarian needs of refugees and internally displaced persons in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are met and to pursue durable solutions to their plight, in particular voluntary repatriation and reintegration, stresses the need to create conditions conducive to their safe return, and emphasizes in this regard the importance

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[190] A/55/416.

[191] See www.reliefweb.int.

of regional cooperation in the search for solutions to the plight of refugees;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize the timely provision of international humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, inter alia, through the mechanisms of a consolidated inter-agency appeal, and recognizes in this regard especially the role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs;

6. *Requests* the United Nations and the specialized agencies to continue their efforts to assess the humanitarian needs, in cooperation with the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, relevant international and regional organizations and bodies and interested States, with a view to ensuring effective links between relief and longer-term assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, taking into account the work already carried out in this field and the need to avoid duplication and the overlapping of efforts;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/170

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.59 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United States of America, Ukraine, Yugoslavia

### 55/170. Economic assistance to the Eastern European States affected by the developments in the Balkans

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/96 G of 15 December 1999,

*Recalling also* the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, adopted in Cologne, Germany, on 10 June 1999, and endorsed at the Sarajevo Summit of 30 July 1999, and emphasizing the crucial importance of its implementation,

*Stressing* the importance of the regional cooperation initiatives, assistance arrangements and organizations, such as the Process of Stability and Good-Neighbourliness in South-East Europe (Royaumont Initiative), the South-East European Cooperative Initiative, the South-East European Cooperation Process, the Central European Initiative, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and the Danube Commission,

*Noting* the leading role played by the high-level steering group for South-Eastern Europe, under the joint chairmanship of the European Commission and the World Bank, in guiding the donor coordination process for the economic reconstruction, stabilization, reform and development of the region, in close cooperation with the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe,

*Mindful* of the positive results of the regional funding conference for South-Eastern Europe organized by the European Commission and the World Bank, held in Brussels on 29 and 30 March 2000, and of the progress achieved in mobilizing and coordinating support of the donor community and international financial institutions for reconstruction and development efforts in South-Eastern Europe,

*Welcoming* the democratic changes in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and their positive effects on peace, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on economic assistance to the Eastern European States affected by the developments in the Balkans and the conclusions contained therein,[192]

1. *Expresses concern* at the persistence of special economic problems confronting the Eastern European States affected by the developments in the Balkans, in particular their impact on regional trade and economic relations and on the navigation along the Danube and on the Adriatic Sea;

2. *Welcomes* the support already provided by the international community, in particular by the European Union and other major donors, to the affected States to assist them in coping with their special economic problems during the transition period following the developments in the Balkans, as well as in the longer-term process of economic recovery, structural adjustment and development in the region;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the effective implementation of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, the objective of which is to strengthen countries in South-Eastern Europe in their efforts to foster peace, democracy, respect for human rights and economic prosperity, in order to achieve stability in the whole region, and welcomes its follow-up activities, aimed, inter alia, at economic reconstruction, development and cooperation, including economic cooperation in the region and between the region and the rest of Europe;

4. *Invites* all States and the relevant international organizations, both within and outside the United Nations system, in particular the international financial institutions, to continue to take into account the special needs and situations of the affected States in providing support and assistance to their efforts for economic recovery, structural adjustment and development;

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[192] A/55/620 and Corr.1.

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of a well-coordinated and timely donor response to the external funding requirements of the process for economic reconstruction, stabilization, reform and development in the Balkans, as well as financial support to other affected countries of Eastern Europe;

6. *Encourages* the affected States of the region to continue and enhance the process of multilateral regional cooperation in the fields of transport and infrastructure development, including the resumption of navigation on the Danube, as well as to foster conditions favourable to trade, investment and private sector development in all the countries of the region;

7. *Invites* the relevant international organizations to take appropriate steps, consistent with the principle of efficient and effective procurement and with the agreed measures for procurement reform, in order to broaden access for interested local and regional vendors and to facilitate their participation in the international assistance efforts for reconstruction, recovery and development of the region;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/171

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.60 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America, Uzbekistan

### 55/171. Closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 45/190 of 21 December 1990, 46/150 of 18 December 1991, 47/165 of 18 December 1992, 48/206 of 21 December 1993, 50/134 of 20 December 1995, 52/172 of 16 December 1997 and 54/97 of 8 December 1999,

*Conscious* of the long-term nature of the consequences of the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which was a major technological catastrophe in terms of its scope and created humanitarian, environmental, social, economic and health consequences in the affected countries,

*Appreciative* of the efforts made by the organizations of the United Nations system and Member States to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, in particular, the contributions of the members of the Group of Seven and the European Union and others to the Shelter Implementation Plan aimed at securing the environmental safety of the sarcophagus covering the destroyed Chernobyl reactor in accordance with the memorandum of understanding between the Governments of the members of the Group of Seven and the Commission of the European Communities and the Government of Ukraine,

*Noting with concern* the gravity of economic and social problems arising for Ukraine as a result of the closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant,

1. *Welcomes* the decision of Ukraine to close the Chernobyl nuclear power plant on 15 December 2000;

2. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to assist the Government of Ukraine in coping with the range of newly emerging economic and social problems arising as a result of the closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant;

3. *Invites* all States and the relevant international and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide support to Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as the most affected countries, in mitigating and minimizing the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster.

## RESOLUTION 55/172

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.65 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Mozambique, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Sao Tome and Principe, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay

### 55/172. Assistance for humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and development for East Timor

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* all of its relevant resolutions on the situation in East Timor, in particular resolutions 54/96 H of 15 December 1999 and 54/194 of 17 December 1999,

*Recalling also* its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex to that resolution,

*Recalling further* all of the relevant Security Council resolutions and decisions on the situation in East Timor, in particular resolutions 1272 (1999) of 25 October 1999 and 1319 (2000) of 8 September 2000,

*Recalling* the establishment by Security Council resolution 1272 (1999) of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor, whose mandate includes the coordination and delivery of humanitarian, rehabilitation and development assistance,

*Welcoming* the response of the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations, with the coordination of the

Transitional Administration since 1 January 2000, and in cooperation with the East Timorese people, in terms of addressing the humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and development needs of East Timor,

*Acknowledging* the progress made in the transition from relief to development in East Timor and, in this regard, the important role played by the Transitional Administration in supporting the resilient and determined efforts of the East Timorese people themselves,

*Welcoming* the progress that has been made in alleviating the humanitarian assistance needs of East Timor, while noting continuing requirements for food and shelter assistance,

*Welcoming also* the efforts of the Government of Indonesia and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in providing humanitarian assistance to the East Timorese refugees in the province of East Nusa Tenggara, West Timor, and in this respect recognizing the importance of the international community in assisting the efforts of the Government of Indonesia to implement resettlement and repatriation programmes of East Timorese refugees,

*Emphasizing* the need for continued international assistance to East Timor to support the transition from relief and rehabilitation to development, in preparation for independence, and recognizing the significant challenges that are to be faced in this regard, inter alia, in the education, health, agriculture and infrastructure sectors,

*Deploring* the killing of three personnel of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at Atambua on 6 September 2000, which resulted in the withdrawal from West Timor of United Nations and other international humanitarian personnel, and welcoming in this respect the steps taken by the Government of Indonesia towards conducting a full-scale investigation, taking firm measures against those found guilty and ensuring a safe and secure environment,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[193]

2. *Encourages* the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations, with the coordination of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor, and in close consultation and cooperation with the East Timorese people, to continue to collaborate to address the remaining humanitarian relief needs of East Timor, and to support the transition from relief and rehabilitation to development in preparation for independence;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of continuing close consultation with and participation of East Timorese institutions and civil society, including local non-governmental organizations, in the planning and delivery of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and development assistance to East Timor;

4. *Welcomes* the establishment of the East Timor National Council as an interim step towards a democratic legislative institution as well as the appointment of a joint cabinet to increase Timorese participation in the Administration;

5. *Urges* United Nations organizations, the international community and non-governmental organizations to continue their efforts aimed at the enhanced ownership and participation of the East Timorese, known as "Timorization" in East Timor, of the social, economic and administrative infrastructure, and in this regard stresses the need for capacity-building, inter alia, in areas such as education, health, agriculture and rural development, the judiciary, governance and public administration, security and law and order;

6. *Commends* Member States for their prompt response to the United Nations consolidated inter-agency appeal for the East Timor crises, which was launched on 27 October 1999, and urges Member States to fulfil their pledges to meet the external financing requirements for humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and development activities for East Timor;

7. *Welcomes* in this regard the convening of the Donors Meetings for East Timor in Tokyo on 16 and 17 December 1999, and in Lisbon on 22 and 23 June 2000, as well as the meeting in Brussels on 5 and 6 December 2000 which focused on the transition towards independence in East Timor in four key areas: political, public administration, public finances, and economic and social reconstruction;

8. *Encourages* continued international support in all sectors, including agriculture, infrastructure, health and education to assist the efforts of East Timor towards sustainable development, particularly in its transition to independence;

9. *Welcomes* the immediate response to food aid needs by the international community, urges it to continue to ensure food security for the remaining vulnerable groups in need, and calls upon the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations to assist the East Timorese in ensuring sustainable development in the areas of agriculture, livestock and fisheries;

10. *Recommends* that outstanding infrastructure needs remain an essential focus of international assistance in such areas as the reconstruction and rehabilitation of public buildings, educational facilities, roads and public services;

11. *Commends* the rapid international response in terms of providing health services to the general population, including the early deployment of immunization and disease prevention programmes, and reproductive health care and child nutrition

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[193] A/55/418.

programmes, while recognizing the need for further assistance to rebuild hospitals and for training health-care professionals;

12. *Welcomes* the ongoing reopening of schools, the supply and distribution of education materials, and teacher training, while emphasizing the need for capacity-building, particularly in the area of secondary and higher education, and for continued attention to the rehabilitation needs, including psychosocial support, of children affected by the violence;

13. *Stresses* the urgent need for sustained and enhanced efforts by the Government of Indonesia, the Transitional Administration and the international community effectively and comprehensively to resolve the question of the East Timorese refugees by the repatriation or resettlement of all those refugees, in conditions of safety and security at all stages, and based on their voluntary decisions, through the efforts of the Government of Indonesia to guarantee effective security in the West Timor camps, by the promotion of a credible and internationally observed registration process, and by the promotion of and support for reconciliation among all East Timorese;

14. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the Government of Indonesia, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration and other humanitarian organizations, to facilitate organized and spontaneous returns of East Timorese refugees from West Timor, including the repatriation of the former Indonesian military reservists known as Milsas, and underscores the importance of continued international assistance to support the efforts of the Government of Indonesia and relevant organizations to meet the needs of East Timorese refugees in West Timor, inter alia, by assisting their voluntary repatriation or resettlement;

15. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and assistance to all those in need and to ensure the safety and security of all humanitarian personnel in West Timor, recognizes in this regard the steps taken and the efforts being made by the Government of Indonesia to implement Security Council resolution 1319 (2000), such as the ongoing disarming and disbanding of the militias, the deploying of additional security apparatus and the bringing to justice of those found guilty, and calls upon the Government to continue to strengthen such efforts in full cooperation with Member States, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations;

16. *Urges* the United Nations to continue to address the humanitarian, rehabilitation and development needs of East Timor;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/173

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.63 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

### 55/173. Assistance to the Palestinian people

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/116 of 15 December 1999,

*Recalling also* previous resolutions on the question,

*Welcoming* the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[194] as well as the signing of the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[195] and the signing of the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum on 4 September 1999,

*Gravely concerned* about the difficult economic and employment conditions facing the Palestinian people throughout the occupied territory,

*Conscious* of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory and the living conditions of the Palestinian people,

*Aware* that development is difficult under occupation and best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

*Noting* the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

*Conscious* of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities,

*Noting* the convening of the United Nations seminar on assistance to the Palestinian people, entitled "Prospects for Palestinian economic development and the Middle East peace process",[196] held in Cairo on 20 and 21 June 2000,

*Stressing* the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people, including assistance in the fields of elections, police training and public administration,

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[194] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[195] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

[196] A/55/144-E/2000/87, annex.

*Noting* the appointment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority,

*Welcoming* the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, and the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat, as well as the establishment of the Consultative Group,

*Welcoming also* the work of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

*Welcoming further* the results of the Ministerial Conference to Support Middle East Peace and Development, held in Washington, D.C., on 30 November 1998, and expressing appreciation for the pledges of the international donor community,

*Welcoming* the meeting of the Consultative Group in Frankfurt, Germany, on 4 and 5 February 1999, in particular the pledges of the international donor community and the presentation of the Palestinian Development Plan for the years 1999-2003,

*Welcoming also* the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee held in Lisbon on 7 and 8 June 2000,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[197]

*Expressing grave concern* over the continuation of the recent tragic and violent events that have led to many deaths and injuries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[197]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;

5. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

6. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with Palestinian priorities set forth by the Palestinian Authority, with emphasis on national execution and capacity-building;

7. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

8. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

9. *Stresses* in this context the importance of ensuring the free passage of aid to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;

10. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend as rapidly as possible emergency economic and humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people to counter the impact of the current crisis;

11. *Stresses* the need to implement the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip,[198] in particular with regard to the full and prompt clearance of Palestinian indirect tax revenues;

12. *Suggests* the convening in 2001 of a United Nations-sponsored seminar on assistance to the Palestinian people;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(*a*) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

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[197] A/55/137-E/2000/95.

[198] See A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

(*b*) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

## RESOLUTIONS 55/174 A and B

Adopted at the 86th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.62/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia

### 55/174. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

### A

### THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/195 B of 17 December 1996, 52/211 B of 19 December 1997, 53/203 A of 18 December 1998 and 54/189 A of 17 December 1999,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolutions 1193 (1998) of 28 August 1998, 1214 (1998) of 8 December 1998 and 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999 and all statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan,

*Noting* all recent declarations by participants of regional international meetings and by international organizations on the situation in Afghanistan,

*Reaffirming its continued strong commitment* to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

*Reiterating* that the United Nations, as a universally recognized and impartial intermediary, must continue to play its central role in international efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict, and expressing its appreciation and strong support for the ongoing efforts made in this regard by the Secretary-General, by his Personal Representative and by the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan,

*Convinced* that there is no military solution to the Afghan conflict and that only a political settlement aimed at the establishment of a broad-based, multi-ethnic and fully representative government acceptable to the Afghan people can lead to peace and reconciliation,

*Stressing* the importance of non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, and deeply concerned at all forms of continued external support, which is causing the prolongation and intensification of the conflict,

*Expressing its grave concern* at the failure of all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to put an end to the conflict, which seriously threatens stability and peace in the region, despite the repeated demands by the Security Council to the warring sides to desist from fighting,

*Strongly condemning* the resumption of major offensives by the Taliban in summer 2000, especially in the Taloqan area, and the resulting negative humanitarian consequences, including the loss of human life, the deliberate abuse, indiscriminate bombing and arbitrary detention of civilians, refugee flows, the recruitment of children for use in armed conflict, harassment, the forcible displacement of innocent civilians, in particular of women and children, in the Shomali Plains and north-eastern Afghanistan, and the indiscriminate destruction of their homes and agricultural land, thereby eliminating their source of income,

*Expressing its grave concern* at persistent violations of human rights and at breaches of international humanitarian law in Afghanistan as well as at the continuing and substantiated reports of systematic human rights violations against women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban,

*Expressing concern* at the growing spread of the Afghan conflict beyond its borders and at actions undermining the security of States' frontiers,

*Deeply disturbed* by the continuing use of Afghan territory in areas controlled by the Taliban for the recruitment, sheltering and training of terrorists, including international terrorists, and the planning of terrorist acts within and outside Afghanistan,

*Deeply disturbed also* by the continuing use of Afghan territory, especially areas controlled by the Taliban, for the continuing cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs, which contribute to the war-making capabilities of the Afghans and have dangerous repercussions reaching Afghanistan's neighbours and far beyond,

*Welcoming* the written agreement communicated by the Taliban and the United Front in separate letters dated

30 October 2000[199] to enter into a process of dialogue, without preconditions and under the good offices of the Secretary-General or his Personal Representative, aimed at achieving a political solution to the conflict in Afghanistan,

*Stressing* that a lasting cessation of hostilities is essential for meaningful dialogue, and welcoming in particular the stated commitment of the two sides to negotiate with serious intent and in good faith and not to abandon the process unilaterally until the negotiating agenda is exhausted,

*Welcoming* the high-level meetings of the "six plus two" group, held at United Nations Headquarters in September and November 2000, and the active role played by the group, leading, inter alia, to the adoption of a regional action plan aimed at eliminating illicit drug production and trafficking in Afghanistan,

*Welcoming also* the contacts between the Special Mission and various non-warring Afghan parties and personalities, and supporting calls by these independent Afghans for an end to the fighting and any proposals that might advance the cause of peace, including the efforts of independent Afghan personalities, many of whom support the proposal of the former King of Afghanistan, Zahir Shah, for the convening of a *loya jirgah* to promote a political settlement,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the efforts undertaken by the Organization of the Islamic Conference, in support of and in coordination with the United Nations, to facilitate the convening of talks between the two Afghan parties, held in Jeddah in March and May 2000,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[200]

2. *Stresses* that the main responsibility for finding a political solution to the conflict lies with the Afghan parties, and urges all of them to respond to the repeated calls for peace by the United Nations;

3. *Reiterates its position* that the United Nations must continue to play its central and impartial role in international efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict, and reaffirms its full support for the efforts of the United Nations in facilitating the political process towards the goal of national reconciliation and a lasting political settlement with the participation of all parties to the conflict and all segments of Afghan society;

4. *Urges* the Taliban and the United Front to honour the written agreement communicated to the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General in separate letters dated 30 October 2000[199] to enter into a process of dialogue, without preconditions and under the good offices of the Secretary-General or his Personal Representative, aimed at achieving a political solution to the conflict in Afghanistan;

5. *Calls upon* the Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to cease immediately all armed hostilities, to renounce the use of force and to pursue without delay the political dialogue under United Nations auspices aimed at achieving a lasting political settlement of the conflict, leading to the establishment of a broad-based, multi-ethnic and fully representative government which would protect the rights of all Afghans and observe the international obligations of Afghanistan;

6. *Strongly urges* the Taliban and other Afghan parties to refrain from all acts of violence against civilians, in particular women and children;

7. *Strongly condemns* the resumption of major hostilities by the Taliban starting in July 2000, and strongly calls upon all Afghan parties to end all armed hostilities and not to pursue a military solution to the conflict in Afghanistan;

8. *Notes with alarm* reports indicating that a significant number of non-Afghan personnel, mainly on the side of the Taliban forces and largely from religious schools, are actively involved in various military activities;

9. *Strongly condemns* the fact that foreign military support to the Afghan parties continued unabated through 2000, and calls upon all States to refrain strictly from any outside interference and to end immediately the supply of arms, ammunition, military equipment, training or any other military support to all parties to the conflict in Afghanistan;

10. *Calls upon* all States to take resolute measures to prohibit their military personnel from planning and participating in combat operations in Afghanistan and immediately to withdraw their personnel, and to assure that the supply of ammunition and other war-making materials is halted;

11. *Supports* the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan with a view to assuring its primary role in United Nations peacemaking activities in Afghanistan, especially by the resumption of a dialogue between the Afghan parties through a negotiating process based on a comprehensive agenda to be agreed by the two sides that addresses the core problems of the Afghan situation and leads to a durable ceasefire and the formation of a broad-based, multi-ethnic and fully representative government;

12. *Also supports* the continuing cooperation of the Special Mission with all countries that are willing to help find a peaceful solution to the Afghan conflict, in particular with the members of the "six plus two" group, while continuing to monitor closely and to encourage the various peace initiatives of non-warring Afghan parties and personalities;

13. *Welcomes* the deployment of the Civil Affairs Unit of the Special Mission to Faizabad, Herat, Jalalabad, Kabul, Kandahar and Mazar-e Sharif and its ongoing dialogue on

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[199] A/55/548-S/2000/1077, annexes.

[200] A/55/633-S/2000/1106.

political and human rights issues with high-ranking representatives of the local and regional authorities of both Afghan sides, and supports the intention of the Secretary-General to strengthen the political capacity of the Special Mission and increase the number of military advisers from two to four;

14. *Supports* the activities of groups of interested States to coordinate their efforts as well as the activities of international organizations, in particular the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and encourages these organizations and States, in particular the "six plus two" group, to use their influence in a constructive manner in support of and in close coordination with the United Nations to promote peace in Afghanistan;

15. *Encourages* the international community to support the Afghan people in their right to express themselves on their main needs and their future through democratic or traditional means by developing a framework for institution and capacity-building that could lead to the eventual structure for a broad-based government;

16. *Calls upon* all signatories to the Tashkent Declaration on Fundamental Principles for a Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict in Afghanistan[201] and the Afghan parties to implement the principles contained in that Declaration in support of the efforts of the United Nations towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict, in particular the agreement not to provide military support to any Afghan party and to prevent the use of their territories for such purposes, and recalls their appeal to the international community to take identical measures to prevent the delivery of weapons to Afghanistan;

17. *Strongly condemns* the armed attacks on and the killing of United Nations and other humanitarian personnel, strongly calls upon the Taliban to fulfil their stated commitment to cooperate in urgent investigations of these heinous crimes with a view to bringing those responsible to justice, and urges all Afghan parties to demonstrate their full commitment to the safety and security of all United Nations and other humanitarian personnel so as to facilitate their continued work in support of the affected population;

18. *Reiterates its strong condemnation* of the killing of the diplomatic and consular staff of the Consulate-General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Mazar-e Sharif and the correspondent of the Islamic Republic News Agency in August 1998, stresses that these unacceptable acts which constitute flagrant violations of established international law must not go unpunished, expresses deep concern at the lack of progress in the Taliban investigation of the murders, and once again urges the Taliban to carry out, without further delay, a credible investigation with a view to prosecuting the guilty parties and to inform the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United Nations about the results thereof;

19. *Strongly condemns* the widespread violations and abuses of human rights, including summary executions and an alleged mass killing of detainees in Samangan in May 2000, and strongly urges all Afghan parties to recognize, protect and promote all human rights and freedoms, including the right to life, liberty and security of persons, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion;

20. *Calls upon* all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to bring an end without delay to all violations of human rights and discriminatory policies against women and girls and to recognize, protect and promote the equal rights and dignity of men and women, especially in the fields of education, work and equal health care;

21. *Condemns* the continuing widespread violations of international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, and urgently calls upon all Afghan parties to respect strictly all its provisions that provide essential protection for the civilian population in armed conflicts;

22. *Reiterates its concerns* that the continuing conflict in Afghanistan poses a growing risk to peace and stability in the region;

23. *Condemns* the acts of terrorists based in Afghanistan, including those in support of extremist groups operating against the interests of Member States and against their citizens, and strongly demands that in particular the Taliban refrain from providing safe haven to international terrorists and their organizations, cease the recruitment of terrorists, close down terrorist training camps inside Afghanistan, take effective measures to ensure that the territory under its control is not used to sponsor international terrorist operations and take the necessary steps to cooperate with efforts to bring indicted terrorists to justice without delay;

24. *Strongly urges* the Taliban to comply without preconditions and without further delay with its obligations under Security Council resolution 1267 (1999) and other relevant resolutions;

25. *Reiterates its call* to all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to halt all illegal drug activities and to support international efforts to ban illicit drug production and trafficking, and calls upon all Member States and all parties concerned to undertake concerted measures to stop the trafficking of illegal drugs from Afghanistan;

26. *Notes with interest* in this regard the decree issued by the Taliban in July 2000 imposing a total ban on opium poppy cultivation, and calls upon the Taliban to implement fully this decree;

27. *Notes* the severe impact of illicit drug production and trafficking on Afghanistan's immediate neighbours, and

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[201] A/54/174-S/1999/812, annex.

calls for further international cooperation in support of the efforts of the neighbouring States to stop the trafficking of illegal drugs from Afghanistan and to cope with its adverse social and economic consequences;

28. *Requests* the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue its crop monitoring work inside Afghanistan, within the context of the United Nations common programme and, with particular regard to assessing the impact of the July 2000 decree, to consider enlarging its alternative development work there should the assessment show significant implementation of the decree, and further to develop international measures against drug trafficking;

29. *Calls upon* the international community to continue providing financial resources to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme for the implementation of the above activities;

30. *Reiterates* that the cultural and historic relics and monuments of Afghanistan belong to the common heritage of humankind, calls upon all Afghan parties to protect the cultural and historic relics and monuments of Afghanistan from acts of vandalism, damage and theft, and requests all Member States to take appropriate measures to prevent the looting of cultural artefacts and to ensure their return to Afghanistan;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every four months during its fifty-fifth session on the progress of the Special Mission and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

32. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".

## B

### EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR PEACE, NORMALCY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR-STRICKEN AFGHANISTAN

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/195 A of 17 December 1996, 52/211 A of 19 December 1997, 53/203 B of 18 December 1998 and 54/189 B of 17 December 1999,

*Expressing its grave concern* about the continuation of the military confrontation in Afghanistan, threatening regional peace and security and causing massive loss of life and extensive human suffering, further destruction of property, serious damage to the economic and social infrastructure, refugee flows and other forcible displacements of large numbers of people, as well as the failure of all warring parties, in particular the Taliban, to stop the fighting,

*Noting with deep concern* the worst drought for decades, which affects large parts of Afghanistan and risks dramatically exacerbating the already fragile humanitarian situation,

*Remaining deeply concerned* about the problem of millions of anti-personnel landmines and unexploded ordnance as well as the continued laying of new anti-personnel landmines in Afghanistan, which continue to prevent many Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons from returning to their villages and working in their fields,

*Noting with deep concern* that the majority of the Afghan people are unable to enjoy fully their human rights and fundamental freedoms owing to the accumulated effects of warfare, further aggravated by ongoing fighting and destruction, in particular by the Taliban, searing poverty, profound underdevelopment, and the policies and practices of the authorities,

*Expressing its grave concern* at the serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular by the Taliban, in Afghanistan and at the inadequacy of measures taken by the warring factions to reverse the situation,

*Deeply concerned* by the continuing and substantiated reports of violations of human rights, in particular of women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban,

*Welcoming* the ongoing work of gender and human rights advisers appointed by the United Nations, who form an integral part of the office of the United Nations resident and humanitarian coordinator in Afghanistan,

*Taking note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences,[202]

*Noting with alarm* that the resumption of fighting by the Taliban during the past summer led to further displacement of civilian populations, especially in the provinces of Baghlan and Takhar,

*Expressing its grave concern* for the well-being of internally displaced persons and other vulnerable sections of the civilian population, who face a long winter possibly deprived of basic foods as a result of the drought and the recent fighting, as well as the repeated denial by the warring factions of adequate conditions for the delivery of aid by humanitarian organizations,

*Affirming* the urgent need to continue international humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan for the restoration of basic services, as well as the need for the conflicting parties to guarantee the safety and security of the personnel of all international organizations,

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[202] E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.4.

*Welcoming* the principle-centred approach towards humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation in Afghanistan, as outlined in the Strategic Framework for Afghanistan, and the consolidated appeals as tools to promote greater effectiveness and coherence in international aid programmes, and welcoming also the establishment of the independent strategic monitoring unit,

*Deeply disturbed* by the continuing security threat to United Nations personnel and other humanitarian personnel, including locally engaged staff, and by the fact that the authorities continue to limit their access to affected populations in certain areas,

*Noting with deep concern* the substantial restrictions introduced by the Taliban authorities on the operations of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations that provide humanitarian, economic rehabilitation and development assistance in Afghanistan, and noting in particular the negative impact these restrictions have on the provision of assistance to groups in need of special protection, especially women and children,

*Noting with deep concern also* that a significant number of Afghan refugees remain in neighbouring countries, as conditions in many parts of Afghanistan are currently not conducive to a safe and sustainable return, and acknowledging that those refugees constitute a continuing socio-economic burden for the host countries,

*Expressing its gratitude* to all Governments that have rendered assistance to Afghan refugees, in particular those of neighbouring countries that continue to host Afghan refugee populations, and at the same time again calling upon all parties to continue to honour their obligations for the protection of refugees and internally displaced persons and to allow international access for their protection and care,

*Recognizing* the need for continuing international assistance for the maintenance abroad and the voluntary repatriation and resettlement of refugees and internally displaced persons, and welcoming the voluntary return of refugees to rural districts in Afghanistan that are relatively stable and secure and not severely affected by the drought,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the United Nations system, and to all States and international and non-governmental organizations that have responded positively, and continue to respond, where conditions permit, to the humanitarian needs of Afghanistan, as well as to the Secretary-General for his efforts in mobilizing and coordinating the delivery of appropriate humanitarian assistance,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General, and endorses the observations contained therein;[203]

2. *Stresses* that the responsibility for the humanitarian crisis lies with all warring parties, in particular with the Taliban;

3. *Strongly condemns* the resumption of major fighting by the Taliban during the past summer, especially in the Taloqan area and the Shomali Plains, resulting in further forcible displacement of civilian populations and destruction of infrastructure;

4. *Notes with alarm* numerous reports of the Taliban troops deliberately destroying, burning and looting homes and assets of civilians essential for their survival in the battle zones;

5. *Urges* all parties, in particular the Taliban, to end immediately all armed hostilities, and calls upon the leaders of all Afghan parties to place the highest priority on national reconciliation, acknowledging the desire of the Afghan people for rehabilitation, reconstruction and economic and social development;

6. *Calls upon* all relevant organizations of the United Nations system to continue to coordinate closely their humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan on the basis of the principles laid out in the Strategic Framework for Afghanistan, in particular to assure a consistent approach to the implementation of these principles, human rights and security, and appeals to donor countries as well as other humanitarian organizations to cooperate closely within the framework of the United Nations, taking into account the inter-agency consolidated appeal for emergency humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance to Afghanistan for 2001;

7. *Strongly condemns* the killing of seven Afghan employees of the United Nations-supported mine awareness programme by unidentified gunmen, as well as recent acts of violence and intimidation against United Nations personnel and offices;

8. *Urges* all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to respect international humanitarian law, to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations and humanitarian personnel as well as their safe and unimpeded access to all affected populations, and to protect the property of the United Nations and of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations, so as to facilitate their work;

9. *Calls upon* the Taliban authorities to implement fully the Supplementary Protocol to the Memorandum of Understanding of 13 May 1998, signed by the United Nations and the Taliban, on the security of United Nations personnel in Afghanistan;

10. *Demands* that all Afghan parties cooperate fully with the United Nations and associated bodies as well as with other agencies and humanitarian organizations in their efforts to respond to the humanitarian needs of the people of Afghanistan;

11. *Condemns* all interference in the delivery of humanitarian relief supplies, and demands the secure and

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[203] A/55/348.

uninterrupted supply of humanitarian aid to all in need of it, especially in the Panjshir valley;

12. *Strongly condemns* substantial restrictions introduced by the Taliban authorities on the operations of the United Nations, in particular the recent decree of law banning the employment of Afghan women in the United Nations and non-governmental programmes, except in the health sector;

13. *Calls upon* the Taliban authorities to cooperate fully and without discrimination on grounds of gender, nationality or religion with the United Nations and associated bodies and with other humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations;

14. *Denounces* the continuing discrimination against girls and women as well as ethnic and religious groups, including minorities, and other violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban, notes with deep concern their adverse effects on international relief and reconstruction programmes in Afghanistan, and calls upon all parties within Afghanistan to respect fully the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with international human rights instruments, inter alia, the International Covenants on Human Rights,[204] and to refrain from all attempts to single out minorities;

15. *Strongly urges* all the Afghan parties to end discriminatory policies and to recognize, protect and promote the equal rights and dignity of women and men, including their rights to full and equal participation in the life of the country, freedom of movement, access to education and health facilities, employment outside the home, personal security and freedom from intimidation and harassment, in particular with respect to the implications of discriminatory policies for the distribution of aid, notwithstanding some progress made with respect to access to education and health care for girls and women;

16. *Urges* all Afghan parties to prohibit conscripting or enlisting children or using them to participate in hostilities in violation of the provisions of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;[205]

17. *Appeals* to all States and to the international community to ensure that all humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan integrates a gender perspective, that it actively attempts to promote the participation of both women and men and that women benefit equally with men from such assistance;

18. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, appeals to the Governments concerned to reaffirm their commitment to international refugee law on the rights of asylum and protection, and calls upon the international community to do likewise;

19. *Recognizes* the high number of refugees in neighbouring countries, and calls upon the international community to consider providing further assistance to Afghan refugees;

20. *Expresses concern* over the continued laying of anti-personnel landmines, which continues to take a heavy toll on civilians and seriously impedes the delivery of humanitarian assistance, and urges all Afghan parties to call a complete halt to the use of landmines, as well as to fulfil their duties to cooperate with the United Nations mine action programme and to protect their personnel;

21. *Urgently appeals* to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide, when conditions on the ground permit, all possible financial, technical and material assistance for the Afghan population, especially in the areas most affected by the drought, and the voluntary, safe and secure return of refugees and internally displaced persons;

22. *Calls upon* the international community to respond to the inter-agency consolidated appeal for emergency humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance for Afghanistan, launched by the Secretary-General on 29 November 2000 for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2001, bearing in mind the availability also of the Afghanistan Emergency Trust Fund;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, under the cluster of items on coordination of humanitarian assistance, the sub-item entitled "Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan".

## RESOLUTION 55/175

Adopted at the 86th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.64 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

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[204] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[205] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

## 55/175. Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/87 of 7 December 1998 and 54/192 of 17 December 1999 on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, as well as resolutions 52/167 of 16 December 1997 on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and 52/126 of 12 December 1997 on protection of United Nations personnel,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on protection of civilians in armed conflicts,[206] and of Security Council resolutions 1265 (1999) of 17 September 1999 and 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000 and the recommendations made therein, as well as the statements by the President of the Security Council of 30 November 1999 on the role of the Security Council in the prevention of armed conflicts,[207] of 13 January 2000 on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Africa,[208] of 9 February 2000 on protection of United Nations personnel, associated personnel and humanitarian personnel in conflict zones,[209] and of 9 March 2000 on humanitarian aspects of issues before the Security Council,[210] and in this context also noting the range of views expressed during all open debates of the Security Council on these issues,

*Taking note also* of the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations[211] on the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations[78] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the report of the Panel,[212]

*Reaffirming* the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international humanitarian law,

*Deeply concerned* by the growing number of complex humanitarian emergencies in the past few years, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, which have dramatically increased the loss of human lives, in particular of civilians, the suffering of victims, flows of refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as material destruction, which disrupt the development efforts of the countries affected, in particular those of developing countries,

*Concerned* by the increasingly difficult context in which humanitarian assistance takes place in some areas, in particular the continuous erosion, in many cases, of respect for the principles and rules of international humanitarian law,

*Deeply concerned* by the dangers and security risks faced by humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel at the field level, and mindful of the need to improve the current security management system in order to improve their safety and security,

*Strongly deploring* the rising toll of casualties among national and international humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations,

*Strongly condemning* the acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault, intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are increasingly exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of their property,

*Strongly condemning also* all recent incidents in many parts of the world in which humanitarian personnel have been deliberately targeted, and expressing profound regret at the deaths of all United Nations and other personnel involved in the provision of humanitarian assistance,

*Recalling* that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter of the United Nations or its agreements with relevant organizations,

*Urging* all other parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with their obligations under the 1949 Geneva Conventions[213] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 8 June 1977,[214] to ensure the security and protection of all humanitarian and United Nations and its associated personnel,

*Expressing concern* that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel is a factor that increasingly restricts the ability of the Organization to provide assistance and protection to civilians in fulfilment of its mandate and Charter,

*Welcoming* the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, adopted on 17 July 1998,[215] and noting the role that the Court could play in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

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[206] A/54/619 and S/1999/957.

[207] S/PRST/1999/34; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999*.

[208] S/PRST/2000/1; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000*.

[209] S/PRST/2000/4; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000*.

[210] S/PRST/2000/7; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000*

[211] A/C.4/55/6.

[212] A/55/502.

[213] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[214] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

*Noting* that the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, which entered into force on 15 January 1999,[216] has been ratified by 46 Member States as at the present date,

*Reaffirming* the fundamental requirement that appropriate modalities for the safety and security of humanitarian and United Nations and its associated personnel be incorporated into all new and ongoing United Nations field operations,

*Emphasizing* the need to give further consideration to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who account for the majority of casualties, and United Nations and its associated personnel,

*Commending* the courage and commitment of those who take part in humanitarian operations, often at great personal risk,

*Guided* by the relevant provisions on protection contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946,[217] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947,[218] the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949[219] and the Additional Protocols,[214] and Amended Protocol II[220] to the Convention on Prohibitions and Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980,[221]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary General on safety and security of United Nations personnel;[222]

2. *Urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international humanitarian law, as well as relevant provisions of human rights law related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel;

3. *Also urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

4. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

5. *Strongly condemns* any act or failure to act which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions, or which entails being subjected to threats, the use of force or physical attack frequently resulting in injury or death, and affirms the need to hold accountable those who commit such acts and, for that purpose, the need to enact national legislation, as appropriate;

6. *Urges* all States to ensure that any threat or act of violence committed against humanitarian personnel on their territory is fully investigated and to take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law and national legislation, to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are prosecuted;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation and to continue to consider ways and means in which to strengthen the protection of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, notably by seeking the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarter and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and its associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[217] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies[218] and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[216]

8. *Calls upon* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations personnel, to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and urges them to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations

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[215] A/CONF.183/9.

[216] Resolution 49/59, annex.

[217] Resolution 22 A (I).

[218] Resolution 179 (II).

[219] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[220] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B.

[221] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[222] A/55/494.

operation who have been arrested or detained in violation of their immunity, in accordance with the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

9. *Calls upon* all other parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with their obligations under the 1949 Geneva Conventions[213] and the Additional Protocols thereto,[214] to ensure the safety and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, to refrain from abducting or detaining them in violation of their immunity under relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm, any abductee or detainee;

10. *Calls upon* all States to consider signing and ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[215]

11. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel to observe and respect the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations;

12. *Calls upon* all States to promote a climate of respect for the security of United Nations and humanitarian personnel;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, falling within his responsibilities, to ensure that security matters are an integral part of the planning for existing and newly mandated United Nations operations and that such precautions extend to all United Nations and its associated personnel;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called to operate, including relevant customs and traditions in the host country, and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant domestic and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights and humanitarian law is provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

15. *Stresses* the need to ensure that all United Nations staff members receive adequate security training prior to their deployment to the field, the need to attach a high priority to the improvement of stress counselling services available to United Nations staff members, including through the implementation of a comprehensive security and stress management training programme for United Nations staff throughout the system, and the need to make available to the Secretary-General the means for this purpose;

16. *Encourages* all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of Staff Members of the United Nations System;

17. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator, and in this regard expresses its appreciation for the recommendation of the Secretary-General to appoint a full-time Security Coordinator so as to enable the Office to enhance its capacity in the discharge of its duties, in consultation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and appropriate agencies within the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, and calls for expeditious consideration of the recommendation;

18. *Recognizes* the need for a strengthened and comprehensive security management system for the United Nations system, both at headquarter and field level, and requests the United Nations system, as well as Member States, to take all appropriate measures needed to that end;

19. *Encourages* all States to become parties to and respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

20. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[223] and decides that the Sixth Committee shall consider the report at the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under an item entitled "Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel";

21. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, which have been ratified so far by 140 States and 106 States, respectively;

22. *Recalls* the essential role of telecommunication resources in facilitating the safety of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, calls upon States to consider signing and ratifying the 1998 Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations,[224] and encourages them, pending the entry into force of the Convention, to facilitate, consistent with their national laws and regulations, the use of communications equipment in such operations;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-sixth session a comprehensive,.updated report on the safety and security situation of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and on the implementation of the

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[223] A/55/637.

[224] United Nations Treaty registration No. 27688.

present resolution, including an account of the measures taken by Governments and the United Nations to prevent and respond to all individual security incidents that involve United Nations and its associated personnel.

## RESOLUTION 55/176

Adopted at the 86th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.66 and Add.1, sponsored by: Burkina Faso, Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Kenya, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Senegal, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia

### 55/176. Assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 45/232 of 21 December 1990, 46/147 of 17 December 1991, 47/154 of 18 December 1992, 48/197 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 E of 20 December 1994, 50/58 A of 12 December 1995, 51/30 B of 5 December 1996, 52/169 E of 16 December 1997 and 53/1 I of 16 November 1998,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[225]

*Commending* the Economic Community of West African States and the United Nations for their collaborative efforts with the Government of Liberia in its peace-building objectives,

*Realizing* that the restoration of peace has not brought rapid and sustainable social and economic recovery, despite programmes initiated by the Government aimed at reconciliation and reconstruction,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to all donor countries, the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, the European Union, the Bretton Woods institutions and non-governmental organizations for their participation in a joint mission held in Monrovia from 15 to 19 November 1999 to assess the National Reconstruction Programme and the use of donor funds committed at the 1998 Donors' Conference for the reconstruction of Liberia, and urges those that have not yet honoured their pledges and commitment to do so;

2. *Also expresses its gratitude* to all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their assistance and support for the peace-building process in Liberia, and urges that such assistance be continued;

3. *Calls upon* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide assistance to Liberia to facilitate the implementation of its National Reconstruction Programme submitted at the Donors' Conference;

4. *Urges* the Government of Liberia to provide an enabling environment for the promotion of socio-economic development and a culture of sustained peace in the country, including a commitment to upholding the rule of law, national reconciliation and human rights and to implementing ways and means of reducing tension and promoting sustainable and peaceful political development in the subregion;

5. *Urges* the United Nations system and all States, in working towards the reconstruction and development of Liberia, to direct their assistance to or through intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

6. *Renews its appeal* to the Government of Liberia to cooperate with the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations in addressing the need for rehabilitation and reconstruction, and stresses the need for the Government of Liberia to assist and protect the civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons, regardless of their origin;

7. *Calls upon* all parties to respect fully the provisions of international humanitarian law and in this regard to ensure safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations throughout the territory of Liberia and the safety of United Nations and humanitarian personnel;

8. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his continuing efforts to mobilize international assistance for the development and reconstruction of Liberia, and requests him to continue his efforts to mobilize all possible assistance within the United Nations system to help in the reconstruction and development of Liberia, including the return and reintegration of refugees, displaced persons and demobilized soldiers;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-seventh session the question of international assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia.

## RESOLUTION 55/177

Adopted at the 86th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.33/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Belize, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela

### 55/177. United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/99 of 8 December 1999, in which it decided to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the

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[225] A/55/90-E/2000/81.

United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala from 1 January to 31 December 2000,

*Taking into account* that, for the first time since the signing of the peace agreements, Guatemala held general elections during the period from November to December 1999 and that the peaceful transfer of power signals significant progress towards the consolidation of an inclusive and democratic political system,

*Underlining* the fact that substantive aspects of the agenda of the peace agreements are yet to be implemented and that their implementation requires a revised calendar prepared by the Commission to Follow up the Implementation of the Peace Agreements,

*Taking into account* that the parties have requested the United Nations to support the consolidation of the peace-building process until 2003,[226]

*Taking into account also* the tenth[227] and eleventh[228] reports of the Mission on human rights,

*Taking into account further* the fourth[229] and fifth[230] reports of the Secretary-General on the verification of compliance with the peace agreements,

*Taking into account* the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification,[231]

*Stressing* the positive role played by the Mission in support of the Guatemala peace process, and emphasizing the need for the Mission to continue to enjoy the full support of all parties concerned,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Mission,[232]

1. *Welcomes* the tenth[227] and eleventh[228] reports of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala on human rights;

2. *Also welcomes* the fourth[229] and fifth[230] reports of the Secretary-General on the verification of compliance with the peace agreements;

3. *Recalls* the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification and the recommendations contained therein;[231]

4. *Welcomes* the commitment made by the new Government of Guatemala in January 2000 to the implementation of the peace agreements and to reinvigorating the peace process through the adoption of social policies anchored to the agreements;

5. *Takes note* of the agreement reached by the parties regarding the importance of the continuing presence of the Mission in Guatemala until 2003;

6. *Also takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General[232] which are aimed at ensuring that the Mission can respond adequately to the demands of the peace process until 31 December 2001, as well as of his proposals relating to the changes in the structure and staffing of the Mission for the period 2001–2003;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made in the implementation of the peace agreements, in particular the process towards the finalization of the Fiscal Pact for a Future with Peace and Development which establishes the basis for increased public spending on the peace agenda and paves the way for the modernization of the economic system, the reinforcement of the operational capacities and training of the National Civil Police and the establishment by decree of the Women's Secretariat;

8. *Welcomes* the rescheduling of pending commitments by the Commission to Follow Up the Implementation of the Peace Agreements and the inclusion of commitments not initially scheduled in a revised calendar for implementation, and urges the rapid approval of the new timetable;

9. *Notes* that the consolidation of the peace-building process remains a significant challenge that requires the strengthening of achievements to date and the completion of the outstanding agenda;

10. *Underlines with concern* that key reforms envisaged in the peace agreements remain outstanding, including the fiscal, judicial, military, electoral and land reforms, as well as decentralization and rural development, and therefore urges the finalization of the Fiscal Pact, notes the need to strengthen the institutions established under the agreements, and stresses the importance of continued compliance with the peace agreements;

11. *Notes* that the present Government has assigned priority to national and international human rights obligations;

12. *Encourages* the Government to implement the recommendations contained in the reports of the Mission on human rights, in particular in view of the persistent shortcomings in the overall human rights situation and the troubling increase in incidents directed at people working on such issues;

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[226] See A/55/389, para. 9.

[227] A/54/688, annex.

[228] A/55/174, annex.

[229] A/54/526.

[230] A/55/175.

[231] A/53/928, annex.

[232] A/55/389.

13. *Underlines* the importance of implementing fully the Agreement on identity and rights of indigenous peoples[233] as a key to achieving peace in Guatemala, and highlights the need to implement fully the Agreement on Social and Economic Aspects and Agrarian Situation[234] as a means of addressing the root causes of the armed conflict;

14. *Calls upon* the Government to follow up the recommendations of the Commission for Historical Clarification, with a view to promoting national reconciliation, upholding the right to truth and providing redress, in accordance with Guatemalan law, for the victims of human rights abuses and violence committed during the thirty-six-year conflict, and calls upon Congress to establish the Commission for Peace and Harmony;

15. *Encourages* the parties and all sectors of Guatemalan society to intensify their efforts to achieve the goals of the peace agreements, in particular the observance of human rights, including the rights of indigenous peoples, equitable development, participation and national reconciliation;

16. *Invites* the international community and, in particular, the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations, to continue to support the consolidation of the peace-building process and to consider the implementation of the peace agreements as the framework for their technical and financial assistance programmes and projects, and stresses the continued importance of close cooperation among them in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Guatemala;

17. *Urges* the international community to support financially the strengthening of the capacities of the United Nations agencies and programmes as they assume a more active role in working in a closely coordinated relationship with the Mission in order to ensure the consolidation of the peace process in Guatemala;

18. *Stresses* that the Mission has a key role to play in promoting the consolidation of peace and the observance of human rights and in verifying compliance with the newly approved timetable for the implementation of pending commitments under the peace agreements;

19. *Decides* to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the Mission from 1 January to 31 December 2001;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, as early as possible, an updated report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, together with his recommendations regarding the continuation of the peace-building phase after 31 December 2001;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly fully informed of the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/178

Adopted at the 86th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.42/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela

### 55/178. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

*The General Assembly*,

*Considering* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, particularly resolution 637 (1989) of 27 July 1989, and its own resolutions, particularly resolution 43/24 of 15 November 1988, in which it requests the Secretary-General to continue his good offices and to afford the fullest possible support to the Central American Governments in their efforts to achieve the objectives of peace, reconciliation, democracy, development and justice established in the agreement on "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America" of 7 August 1987,[235]

*Reaffirming* its resolutions in which it recognizes and stresses the importance of international economic, financial and technical cooperation and assistance, both bilateral and multilateral, aimed at promoting economic and social development in the region with a view to furthering and supplementing the efforts of the Central American peoples and Governments to achieve peace and democratization, particularly resolution 52/169 G of 16 December 1997, concerning international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,[236] as well as its resolution 53/1 C of 2 November 1998, concerning emergency assistance to Central America, owing to the destruction caused by hurricane Mitch,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the development of the Central American Integration System, which has as its main objective the promotion of the integration process, the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America as the integrated programme for national and regional development, which contains the commitments and priorities of the countries of the area for the promotion of sustainable development, the establishment of the subsystem and of the regional social policy, the model of democratic Central American security, and the implementation of other agreements adopted at the presidential summit meetings, which taken together constitute the global frame of reference for consolidating peace, freedom, democracy and development and the basis for the promotion of mutually advantageous relations between Central America and the international community,

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[233] A/49/882-S/1995/256, annex.

[234] A/50/956, annex.

[235] A/42/521-S/19085, annex.

[236] A/49/580-S/1994/1217, annex I.

*Recognizing* the considerable success achieved in the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the Guatemala Peace Agreements, implementation of which is being verified by the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala,

*Noting at the same time* the delays in the fulfilment of some of the commitments contained in the Guatemala Peace Agreements, which has led the Commission to Follow up the Implementation of the Peace Agreements to reschedule its fulfilment for the period 2001–2004, and having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala and the recommendations contained therein[237] aimed at ensuring that the Mission is able to respond adequately to the demands of the peace process until December 2001,

*Taking note with satisfaction* of the successful implementation of the Peace Agreements and the continuous consolidation of the process of democratization in El Salvador, as a result of the efforts of its people and Government,

*Recognizing with satisfaction* the role played by the peacekeeping operations and observer and monitoring missions of the United Nations, which carried out successfully their mandate in Central America pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly, respectively,

*Recognizing with satisfaction also* the organization and holding of general elections in Guatemala at the end of 1999, of municipal and parliamentary elections in El Salvador in March 2000 and of municipal elections in Nicaragua in November 2000,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the end of a critical period in Central American history and the start of a new phase free from armed conflict, with freely elected Governments in each country and with political, economic, social and other changes which are creating a climate conducive to the promotion of economic growth and further progress towards the consolidation and further development of democratic, just and equitable societies,

*Noting with gratification* that the Third Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[238] will be held in Nicaragua in September 2001,

*Reaffirming* that the consolidation and establishment of firm and lasting peace and democracy in Central America is a dynamic and ongoing process that faces serious structural challenges,

*Stressing* the importance of progress in human development, especially the alleviation of extreme poverty, the promotion of economic and social justice, judicial reform, the safeguarding of human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for minorities and the satisfaction of the basic needs of the most vulnerable groups among the peoples in the region, issues which have been a primary source of tension and conflict and which deserve to be discussed with the same urgency and dedication as was the case in the settlement of armed conflicts,

*Considering with concern* that it has not yet been possible to overcome the devastating effects of hurricanes Mitch and Keith on sectors of Central American countries and which are causing setbacks in the efforts of the peoples and the Governments of Central America,

*Emphasizing* the solidarity of the international community with the victims of hurricane Mitch, as demonstrated by the Stockholm Declaration,[239] the subsequent meetings of the Consultative Group for the Reconstruction and Transformation of Central America and the next meeting of the Group in Madrid in January 2001,

*Bearing in mind* the efforts made by the Central American Governments to reduce the risks and mitigate the consequences of natural disasters in the region, as demonstrated by the adoption, by the Presidents of the Isthmus, of the Declaration of Guatemala II of 19 October 1999,[240] the subsequent adoption of the Strategic Framework for the Reduction of Vulnerability and Disasters in Central America, as well as the adoption of the Central American Five-Year Plan for the Reduction of Vulnerability to and the Impact of Disasters, 2000 to 2004,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[241]

2. *Commends* the efforts of the peoples and the Governments of the Central American countries to re-establish peace and democracy throughout the region and promote sustainable development by implementing the commitments adopted at the summit meetings in the region, and supports the decision of the Presidents that Central America should become a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development;

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[237] A/55/389.

[238] See CD/1478.

[239] See www.iadb.org.

[240] A/54/630, annex.

[241] A/55/465.

3. *Reaffirms* the need to continue to improve the electoral processes that have been taking place in Central America, which are conducive to the consolidation of democracy in the region, and encourages greater participation of citizens in elections;

4. *Recognizes* the need to continue to follow closely the situation in Central America according to the objectives and principles established in the Stockholm Declaration[239] in order to support national and regional efforts to overcome the underlying causes that have led to armed conflicts, avoid setbacks and consolidate peace and democratization in the area and promote the objectives of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America;[236]

5. *Stresses* the importance of lending support to the meeting of the Consultative Group for the Reconstruction and Transformation of Central America, which will be held in Madrid in January 2001, in order to continue to help to consolidate the modernization and improvement of the principal structures of the region in accordance with the model established by the Alliance for Sustainable Development;

6. *Welcomes* the Declaration of Guatemala II[240] which provides for the necessary measures to prevent vulnerability to and mitigate the effects of natural disasters;

7. *Also welcomes* the progress achieved in implementing the Guatemala Peace Agreements, calls upon all parties to take further measures to implement the commitments in the Peace Agreements, and urges all sectors of society to combine efforts and work with courage and determination to consolidate peace;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the bodies and programmes of the United Nations system and the international community to continue to support and verify in Guatemala the implementation of all the peace agreements signed under United Nations auspices, compliance with which is an essential condition for a firm and lasting peace in that country, and to consider the implementation of the Peace Agreements as the framework for their technical and financial assistance programmes and projects, stressing the importance of constant and close cooperation among them in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Guatemala;

9. *Expresses its appreciation with satisfaction* to the people and the Government of El Salvador for their efforts to fulfil the commitments set forth in the Peace Agreements, which has made a substantial contribution to the strengthening of the process of democratization in that country;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of the Central American Integration System as the body set up to coordinate and harmonize efforts to achieve integration, and calls upon the international community, the United Nations system and other international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, to extend generous and effective cooperation with a view to improving the competence and efficiency of the Integration System in the fulfilment of its mandate;

11. *Underlines* the efforts carried out in the Central American region towards integration, such as the Trinational Declaration between Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua, as well as the Customs Union between those countries, as means for promoting integration while respecting different stages of development, through a pragmatic mechanism open to the participation of the other countries of the region;

12. *Encourages* the Central American Governments to continue to carry out their historic responsibilities by fully implementing the commitments they have assumed under national, regional or international agreements, especially the commitments to implement the social programme to overcome poverty and unemployment, establish a more just and equitable society, improve public safety, strengthen the judiciary, consolidate a modern and transparent public administration and eliminate corruption, impunity, acts of terrorism and drug and arms trafficking, all of which are necessary and urgent measures for establishing a firm and lasting peace in the region;

13. *Reiterates its deep appreciation* to the Secretary-General, his special representatives, the groups of countries for the peace processes in El Salvador (Colombia, Mexico, Spain, United States of America and Venezuela), and Guatemala (Colombia, Mexico, Norway, Spain, United States of America and Venezuela), to the Support Group for Nicaragua (Canada, Mexico, Netherlands, Spain and Sweden), to the European Union and to other countries that have contributed significantly and to the international community in general for its support and solidarity in the building of peace, democracy and development in Central America;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance of international cooperation, in particular cooperation with the bodies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and the donor community in the new stage of consolidating firm and lasting peace and democracy in Central America, and urges them to continue to support Central American efforts to achieve those goals;

15. *Notes with satisfaction* the determination of the Central American Governments to settle their disputes through peaceful means, thereby avoiding any setback in the efforts to consolidate firm and lasting peace in the region;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to lend his full support to the initiatives and activities of the Central American Governments, particularly their efforts to consolidate peace and democracy through the promotion of integration and the implementation of the comprehensive sustainable development programme, emphasizing, inter alia, the potential repercussions of natural disasters, in particular the persisting effects of hurricane Mitch, for the peace processes and the vulnerable economies of the region, and to report to the General

Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development".

## RESOLUTION 55/179

Adopted at the 86th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2000, by a recorded vote of 147 to 1, with no abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.69 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia and the amendment in document A/55/L.70, sponsored by Azerbaijan

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

*Against:* Armenia

*Abstentions:* None

### 55/179. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the framework for cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, signed on 26 May 1993,[242] as well as its resolutions on cooperation between the two organizations,

*Recalling also* the principles embodied in the Helsinki Final Act and in the declaration at the 1992 Helsinki Summit by the heads of State or Government of the participating States of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe of their understanding that the Conference is a regional arrangement in the sense of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and as such provides an important link between European and global security,[243]

*Acknowledging* the increasing contribution of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security in its region through activities in early warning and preventive diplomacy, including through the activities of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, as well as arms control and disarmament,

*Recalling* the Charter for European Security adopted at the Summit in Istanbul in November 1999, which reaffirms the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as a primary organization for the peaceful settlement of disputes within its region and as a key instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation,

*Recalling also* the special ties between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation, as well as between that organization and the Asian Partners for Cooperation, Japan and the Republic of Korea, which have been further enhanced in 2000,

*Underlining* the continued importance of enhanced cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[244]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the further improvement of cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and its agencies and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, including at the level of activities in the field;

3. *Welcomes*, in this context, the participation of the Deputy Secretary-General in the meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which was held in Vienna in November 2000, and the participation of high-level United Nations representatives in meetings of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

4. *Encourages* further efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to foster security and stability in its region through early warning, conflict prevention,

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[242] A/48/185, annex II, appendix.

[243] See A/47/361-S/24370, annex.

[244] A/55/98.

crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, as well as through continued promotion of democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Also encourages* the intention of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to create an environment in which the dignity, well-being, safety and human rights of all people are ensured;

6. *Welcomes* the documents of the meeting of the Ministerial Council held in Vienna on enhancing the efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to combat trafficking in human beings and on the illicit trafficking in and the destabilizing accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons;

7. *Also welcomes* the continued close cooperation between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

8. *Further welcomes* the admission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia into the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on 10 November 2000 after the vivid demonstration of the commitment of the people of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to democracy, and commends the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for its commitment to the principles and standards of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and its readiness to cooperate with European institutions and with its neighbours offering new perspectives for peace and prosperity in South-Eastern Europe;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the readiness of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to assist the Yugoslav people to this end and the preparedness of the Yugoslav Government to have a presence of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in the country, and welcomes the steps undertaken by the Government to ensure an early amnesty for all political prisoners;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* for the contribution by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo in implementing Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, including the establishment, pursuant to that resolution, of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Mission in Kosovo as an essential part of the broader United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, responsible for institution-building, including the training of a new Kosovo police service, judicial personnel and civil administrators, the development of free media, democratization and governance, the organization and supervision of elections and the monitoring, protection and promotion of human rights, in cooperation with, inter alia, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and stresses the commitment of the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the full implementation of resolution 1244 (1999);

11. *Commends* the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for its substantial role in the preparation and organization of the local elections in Kosovo in view of the consolidation of stability and prosperity in Kosovo on the basis of substantial autonomy, respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, pending a final settlement in accordance with resolution 1244 (1999);

12. *Welcomes* the role of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, initialled in Dayton, United States of America, on 21 November 1995,[245] in particular in the fields of human rights and judicial and police reform, and commends the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for its substantial role in the preparation and organization of elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

13. *Underlines* the importance of regional cooperation as a means of fostering good-neighbourly relations, stability and economic development, welcomes the implementation of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as an important long-term and comprehensive initiative to promote good-neighbourly relations, stability and economic development, and also welcomes the commitment of participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to contribute further to the goals of the Stability Pact;

14. *Welcomes* the work of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in assisting in the implementation of articles II and IV of annex 1-B to the General Framework Agreement and its contribution to the creation of a framework for peace and stability in South-Eastern Europe;

15. *Fully supports* the activities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to achieve a peaceful solution to the conflict in and around the Nagorny-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and welcomes cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in this regard;

16. *Welcomes*, in view of lack of progress in the peace process of the Nagorny-Karabakh conflict, the intention of the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to intensity their efforts in fulfilling their mandates and to further an atmosphere of mutual trust between all parties to the conflict, also welcomes

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[245] See A/50/790-S/1995/999.

the direct dialogue between the Presidents of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia, and encourages them to continue their efforts in working with the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Group to expedite agreements that would serve as a basis for the resumption of full-scale negotiations within the Group;

17. *Stresses* the importance of all parties doing their utmost to ensure that the ceasefire along the line of contact is strictly observed until a comprehensive agreement resolving the conflict is signed, and commends the efforts taken by the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Group since the Istanbul Summit to diminish tensions in the region and to prepare, in coordination with the United Nations and other international agencies, support measures that would facilitate the implementation of a political settlement;

18. *Welcomes* efforts undertaken in 2000 to strengthen cooperation between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations in Georgia, and with regard to Abkhazia, Georgia, welcomes the completion of the joint assessment mission to the Gali district in November 2000 to evaluate conditions for the return of refugees and internally displaced persons to their former places of permanent residence;

19. *Fully supports* the efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe aimed at achieving a settlement of the problems in the Transdniestrian region of the Republic of Moldova, recalls the commitment by the Russian Federation to complete the withdrawal of the Russian forces from the territory of the Republic of Moldova by the end of 2002, as agreed at the Istanbul Summit, and welcomes the willingness of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe together with the Republic of Moldova to facilitate this process, within their respective abilities, by the agreed deadline;

20. *Welcomes* the establishment of enhanced dialogue between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Central Asian participating States and the readiness of that organization to contribute, inter alia, together with the United Nations, to strengthening cooperation in the region, as well as the commitment of that organization to promote democratic institutions and assist the Central Asian countries in addressing security issues, the problem of organized crime and economic and environmental concerns, and takes note in this respect of the international conference on enhancing security and stability in Central Asia, held in Tashkent on 19 and 20 October 2000, which was organized jointly by the Chair of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention with the assistance of the Government of Uzbekistan;

21. *Also welcomes* the in-depth discussions on cooperation of the United Nations, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe with regard to interaction and complementarity of rapid response mechanisms at the meeting of the Ministerial Council held in Vienna, and requests the Secretary-General to continue exploring with the Chairman-in-Office and the Secretary-General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe possibilities for further enhancement of cooperation, information exchange and coordination between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

22. *Further welcomes* the fact that Thailand has become a new Partner for Cooperation of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/215

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.71 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

### 55/215. Towards global partnerships

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the central role of the United Nations, in particular the General Assembly, in the promotion of partnerships in the context of globalization,

*Underlining* the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the priorities and objectives formulated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[246] particularly in regard to developing strong partnerships in pursuit of development and poverty eradication,

*Stressing* that efforts to meet the challenges of globalization could benefit from enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector, in order to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all,

*Taking into account* ideas expressed in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "We the peoples: the role of the

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[246] See resolution 55/2.

United Nations in the twenty-first century" of 27 March 2000[247] with regard to enhanced cooperation with the private sector,

1. *Stresses* the need for Member States further to discuss partnerships and consider, in appropriate intergovernmental consultations, ways and means to enhance cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, inter alia, from the developing countries, to give them greater opportunities to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General in this regard to seek the views of all Member States on ways and means to enhance cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General also to seek the views of relevant partners, in particular the private sector, on how to enhance their cooperation with the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on this matter, containing a compilation of views of Member States, views of other relevant partners, and his recommendations in this regard, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Towards global partnerships".

## RESOLUTION 55/216

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.68 and Add.1, sponsored by: India, Madagascar, Singapore

### 55/216. Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, and its addendum on mobilization of additional resources for African development, a study on overall resource flows to Africa,[248]

*Recalling* its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, its resolutions 48/214 of 23 December 1993 and 49/142 of 23 December 1994, 53/90 of 7 December 1998 on the implementation of the New Agenda, as well as its resolution 51/32 of 6 December 1996 on the mid-term review of the implementation of the New Agenda,

*Bearing in mind* the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa submitted to the Security Council and the General Assembly in 1998[249] and its resolution 54/234 of 22 December 1999 on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, as well as the recommendations of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa,[250] established by the General Assembly to monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General,

*Recalling* that, while the primary responsibility for the development of Africa remains with African countries, the international community has a stake in it and in supporting the efforts of those countries in that regard,

*Welcoming* recent efforts and initiatives of the United Nations on Africa, in particular, the meeting of the Security Council on human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) in Africa, held in January 2000, section VII of the United Nations Millennium Declaration[251] on meeting the special needs of Africa, the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council to be held in July 2001, as well as other events on development that will address issues of particular importance for Africa, such as the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to be hosted by the European Union in Brussels in May 2001, the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS scheduled for June 2001, the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development and the ten-year review of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

*Welcoming also* the strong partnership between European Union and African countries through the Cairo Declaration and Plan of Action,[252] as well as the Cotonou Agreement of 23 June 2000,[253] with its financial commitments, between the members of the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, which is mainly composed of African countries,

*Welcoming further* the support by the international community, including the Beijing Declaration and Programme for China-Africa Cooperation in Economic and Social Development, adopted by the China-Africa Cooperation Forum on 12 October 2000, the United States of America Africa Growth and Opportunity Act, as well as the Ministerial

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[247] A/54/2000.

[248] A/55/350 and Add.1.

[249] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[250] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 45* (A/55/45).

[251] See resolution 55/2.

[252] A/54/855-E/2000/44, annexes I and II.

[253] See www.acpsec.org.

Conference of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development on the follow-up of the implementation of the Tokyo Agenda for Action,[254] scheduled for 2001 or early 2002,

*Taking note with great concern* of the debt burden of many African countries, as debt servicing continues to drain the limited resources for development,

*Reaffirming* the need for the integration of African countries into the international trading system by highlighting the importance of creating, at the national and international levels, an environment that is conducive to attracting foreign direct investment and promoting international trade as engines of growth and development,

*Expressing its concern* at the overall declining trends of resource flows to Africa, in particular the low levels of foreign direct investment and official development assistance, which have seriously constrained, among other things, the timely implementation of the New Agenda,

*Recognizing* the crucial need for a substantial increase in financial resource flows to Africa to support the implementation of development activities of African countries,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and its addendum on the mobilization of additional resources for African development, a study on overall resource flows to Africa;[248]

2. *Recognizes and calls* for further broadening and strengthening of efforts by many African countries to enhance progress in areas covering economic reforms, including the putting in place of sound macroeconomic policies, promotion of the private sector, enhancement of the democratization process and strengthening of civil society and participatory, transparent and accountable governance and the rule of law, as well as increased attention to the human dimension, especially education, gender, population, health and south-south cooperation;

3. *Expresses its grave concern* at the limited progress in many other areas, such as poverty eradication, prevention and treatment of infectious diseases, such as malaria, tuberculosis and, in particular, the HIV/AIDS pandemic, the combating of drought and desertification, agriculture and food production, food security, infrastructure development, institutional capacity for regional cooperation and integration, environment and development and conflict prevention, management and resolution;

4. *Urges* the implementation of the enhanced programme of debt relief to heavily indebted poor countries without delay and the cancellation of all the official bilateral debt of those countries in the context of poverty eradication, in return for a demonstrable commitment by them to poverty reduction as part of their overall development strategy, and requests the support of the international community for debt relief for African countries in a comprehensive and effective manner;

5. *Stresses* the urgent need to facilitate the full integration of African countries into the world economy, and in this context calls for continued efforts to enhance market access for products of export interest to African economies and support for the efforts towards diversification and the building of supply capacity, and in this regard welcomes the efforts of the European Union and the United States, in particular through the Cotonou Agreement of the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States[253] and the United States Africa Growth and Opportunity Act;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to the developed countries that have agreed to and have reached the target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance, and calls upon the developed countries that have not yet done so to strengthen their efforts to achieve, as soon as possible, the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance, taking into account the special development needs of the least developed countries in Africa;

7. *Urges* all States, international financial institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, multilateral organizations and development funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to pursue with renewed vigour, and as a matter of urgency, the realization of the goals and objectives embodied in the New Agenda;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, as well as other multilateral and bilateral development cooperation institutions, including international financial institutions, and non-governmental organizations, to ensure that development assistance activities in Africa are carried out in a more coordinated manner for greater efficiency, impact and tangible results under the leadership of recipient countries;

9. *Reaffirms* its resolution 51/32, recognizing the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa as an implementing arm of the New Agenda, and notes with satisfaction the progress achieved so far, and invites the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen this mechanism with a view to enabling it to advance coordination and harmonization of initiatives among development actors in Africa, and in this regard stresses the importance of establishing an integrated United Nations approach to Africa;

10. *Also reaffirms* its decision contained in resolution 51/32 to conduct in 2002 the final review and appraisal of the

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[254] A/53/559-S/1998/1015, annex I.

New Agenda in line with the provisions of section II, paragraph 43 (*e*), of the annex to resolution 46/151;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General to encourage the closer involvement of the Organization of African Unity in the implementation, follow-up and evaluation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and beyond, including the holding of the final review of the implementation of the New Agenda in 2002;

12. *Stresses* the importance, in preparation of the final review and appraisal of the New Agenda, of an independent and high-level quality evaluation;

13. *Reiterates*, in this regard, the importance of establishing a set of performance indicators to measure the progress made in the implementation of the New Agenda;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account these indicators, to submit an independent and objective evaluation of the New Agenda to the General Assembly not later than 31 May 2002;

15. *Reaffirms* its decision contained in resolution 54/234 to consider at its fifty-sixth session the modalities for undertaking the final review and appraisal of the New Agenda, taking into account the mid-term review of the New Agenda, agreed conclusions 1999/2[255] and decision 1999/270 adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1999, and section VII of the United Nations Millennium Declaration.[251]

## RESOLUTION 55/217

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.37/Rev.1 and Corr.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Madagascar, Mali, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden

### 55/217. Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/92 of 7 December 1998 and 54/234 of 22 December 1999 on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,

*Having considered* the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa,[256] as well as the note by the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 54/234,[257]

*Recalling* its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, its resolutions 48/214 of 23 December 1993, 49/142 of 23 December 1994 and 51/32 of 6 December 1996, on the mid-term review of the New Agenda, as well as its resolution 53/90 of 7 December 1998 on the implementation of the New Agenda, as well as chapter VII of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[258]

*Reaffirming* the close linkage between peace, security and sustainable development and the need for a comprehensive implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[259]

*Expressing deep concern* about the obstacles to the effective implementation of the recommendations of the Secretary-General, including the lack of financial and technical resources for development in Africa,

*Emphasizing* the need to strengthen further the political will that is indispensable for the successful implementation of the recommendations of the Secretary-General and the proposals of the Working Group,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa;[256]

2. *Endorses* the proposals of the Working Group contained in paragraphs 25 to 57 of chapter IV of its report, entitled "Modalities for further action", and the follow-up action proposed in paragraph 60 of the report;

3. *Encourages* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant international and regional institutions, within their respective mandates, to take necessary measures to implement fully the proposals made by the Working Group in its report;

4. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Working Group until the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, to enable it to continue to monitor the implementation of all of the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in his report;[259]

5. *Requests* the Working Group, in devising the modalities for its work, to consider the need for a comprehensive follow-up to the recommendations of the Secretary-General and the necessity of ensuring efficiency by focusing on selected thematic areas;

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[255] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), Chap. V, para. 6.

[256] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session Supplement No. 45* (A/55/45).

[257] A/55/431.

[258] See resolution 55/2.

[259] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

6. *Invites* the Security Council to pursue its consideration of the follow-up to the recommendations in the areas of peace and security, with a view to ensuring coordinated and integrated implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

7. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2001, to consider the proposals of the Working Group contained in chapter IV of its report, including the creation of an ad hoc advisory group on countries emerging from conflict, with a view to assessing their humanitarian and economic needs and elaborating a long-term programme of support for implementation that begins with the integration of relief into development;

8. *Requests* that, where applicable, benchmarks be developed by the Secretary-General to assess the impact of and measure performance in the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report and that he submit them to the Working Group for its consideration;

9. *Requests* the Working Group to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a progress report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report.

## RESOLUTION 55/218

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2000, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/55/L.67, as orally revised, sponsored by Togo

### 55/218. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[260]

*Recalling* the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and the agreement on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity,[261] as well as all its resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, including resolution 54/94 of 8 December 1999,

*Taking note* of the declarations and decisions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-sixth ordinary session, held in Lomé from 10 to 12 July 2000,[262] in particular the decision relating to the adoption of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the declaration on the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa,

*Mindful* of the need for continued and closer cooperation between the United Nations and its specialized agencies and the Organization of African Unity in the peace and security, political, economic, social, technical, cultural and administrative fields,

*Acknowledging* the contribution of the United Nations Liaison Office in strengthening coordination and cooperation between the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations since its establishment in Addis Ababa in April 1998,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the effective implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[263] and welcoming in this regard the commitments of Member States to respond to the special needs of Africa,

*Noting* the efforts being made by the Organization of African Unity and its member States in the area of economic integration and the need to accelerate the process of implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community,[264]

*Noting also* the progress made by the Organization of African Unity in developing the capacity of its Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, including with the assistance of the United Nations and the international community,

*Stressing* the urgent need to address the plight of refugees and internally displaced persons in Africa, and noting in this context the efforts made to implement the recommendations of the Organization of African Unity Ministerial Meeting on Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Africa, held in Khartoum on 13 and 14 December 1998, as well as the endorsement by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, at its seventy-second session, of the Comprehensive Implementation Plan adopted at the special meeting of governmental and non-governmental technical experts organized by the Organization of African Unity and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at Conakry from 27 to 29 March 2000,

*Recognizing* the importance of developing and maintaining a culture of peace, tolerance and harmonious relationships based on the promotion of economic development, democratic principles, good governance, the rule of law, human rights, social justice and international cooperation,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[260]

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[260] A/55/498.

[261] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 548, No. 614 (Part II).

[262] See A/55/286, annex II.

[263] See resolution 55/2.

[264] A/46/651, annex.

2. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Liaison Office with the Organization of African Unity;

3. *Welcomes* the continuing participation in and constructive contribution of the Organization of African Unity to the work of the United Nations, its organs and specialized agencies, and calls upon the two organizations to enhance the involvement of the Organization of African Unity in all United Nations activities concerning Africa;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General closely to involve the Organization of African Unity in the implementation of the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[263] especially those that relate to meeting the special needs of Africa;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to implement the recommendations of the annual meeting of the two organizations held in Addis Ababa on 10 and 11 April 2000, in particular those relating to priority programmes of the Organization of African Unity as specified in section III of the report of the Secretary-General;

6. *Requests* the United Nations to intensify its assistance to the Organization of African Unity in strengthening the institutional and operational capacity of its Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, in particular in the following areas:

(*a*) Development of its early warning system;

(*b*) Technical assistance and training of civilian and military personnel, including a staff exchange programme;

(*c*) Exchange and coordination of information, including between the early warning systems of the two organizations;

(*d*) Logistical support, including in the area of mine clearance;

(*e*) Mobilization of financial support, including through the trust funds of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity;

7. *Urges* the United Nations to encourage donor countries, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, to contribute to adequate funding, training and logistical support for African countries in their efforts to enhance their peacekeeping capabilities, with a view to enabling those countries to participate actively in peacekeeping operations within the framework of the United Nations;

8. *Requests* the agencies of the United Nations system working in Africa to include in their programmes at the national, subregional and regional levels activities to support African countries in their efforts to enhance regional economic cooperation and integration;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations agencies to intensify the coordination of their regional programmes in Africa to ensure the effective harmonization of their programmes with those of the African regional and subregional economic organizations and contribute to creating a positive environment for economic development and investment;

10. *Calls upon* the international community to support and enhance the capacity of African countries to take advantage of the opportunities offered by globalization and to overcome the challenges it poses, as a means of ensuring sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

11. *Calls upon* the United Nations to support actively the efforts of the Organization of African Unity in urging the donor community and, where appropriate, multilateral institutions to strive to meet the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance, to implement fully, speedily and effectively the enhanced programme of debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries, and to achieve the goal of securing debt relief in a comprehensive and effective manner in favour of African countries through various national and international measures designed to make their debt sustainable in the long term;

12. *Calls upon* all Member States and regional and international organizations, in particular those of the United Nations system, as well as non-governmental organizations, to provide additional assistance to the Organization of African Unity and those Governments in Africa concerned with the problems of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

13. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the effective and equitable representation of African men and women at senior and policy levels at their respective headquarters and in their regional field of operations;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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## RESOLUTION 55/27

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/552, para. 8)[1]

### 55/27. Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, signed at Helsinki on 1 August 1975,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2]

*Welcoming* the democratic changes in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and their positive effects on the peace, stability and development of South-Eastern Europe,

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/84 B of 16 December 1993, 50/80 B of 12 December 1995, 51/55 of 10 December 1996, 52/48 of 9 December 1997, 53/71 of 4 December 1998 and 54/62 of 1 December 1999,

*Recalling also* the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe initiated by the European Union, adopted at Cologne, Germany, on 10 June 1999 and endorsed at the Sarajevo Summit of 30 July 1999, and stressing the crucial importance of its implementation,

*Recalling further* the Sarajevo Summit Declaration, in which the participants affirm their collective and individual readiness to give concrete meaning to the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe by promoting political and economic reforms, development and enhanced security in the region and also their commitment to make every effort to assist countries in the region in making speedy and measurable progress along this road,

*Emphasizing* the crucial importance of the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 on Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

*Noting* the importance of the activities of the international organizations, such as the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, and the contribution of the Central European Initiative and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation for the implementation of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe,

*Noting also* the importance of the Charter on Good-Neighbourly Relations, Stability, Security and Cooperation in South-Eastern Europe, signed by the States participating in the South-East European Cooperation Process at Bucharest on 12 February 2000,[3] and the joint statement of the heads of State and Government adopted at Skopje on 25 October 2000,[4]

*Noting further* the convening of the International Conference on War-Affected Children at Winnipeg, Canada, from 10 to 17 September 2000,

*Emphasizing* the importance of regional efforts in South-Eastern Europe on arms control, demining, disarmament and confidence-building measures, and concerned that, in spite of ongoing efforts, the illicit traffic in and circulation of small arms continue to persist,

*Mindful* of the importance of national and international activities by all relevant organizations aimed at the creation of peace, security, stability, democracy, cooperation, economic development, the observance of human rights and good-neighbourliness in South-Eastern Europe,

*Affirming its determination* that all nations should live together in peace with one another as good neighbours,

1. *Affirms* the urgency of consolidating South-Eastern Europe as a region of peace, security, stability, democracy, cooperation and economic development and for the promotion of good-neighbourliness and the observance of human rights, thus contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security and enhancing the prospects for sustained development and prosperity for all peoples in the region as an integral part of Europe;

2. *Calls upon* all participants in the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, and all concerned international organizations, to support the efforts of South-Eastern European States to overcome the negative effects of the Kosovo crisis and other recent crises so as to enable them to pursue sustainable development and their integration into the European structures, and welcomes the results of the third meeting of the Working Table on Security Issues of the Stability Pact, held at Sofia on 4 and 5 October 2000;

3. *Encourages* all States to contribute to the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) on Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and welcomes the efforts and supports the role of the United Nations Interim

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[2] See resolution 55/2.

[3] See A/54/781.

[4] A/55/522-S/2000/1028, annex.

Administration Mission in Kosovo and the Kosovo Force in the implementation of their mandates under that resolution;

4. *Calls upon* all States, the relevant international organizations and competent organs of the United Nations to respect the principles of territorial integrity and sovereignty of all States and the inviolability of international borders, to continue to take measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, as appropriate, to eliminate threats to international peace and security and to help to prevent conflicts which can lead to the violent disintegration of States;

5. *Stresses* the importance of good-neighbourliness and the development of friendly relations among States, and calls upon all States to resolve their disputes with other States by peaceful means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

6. *Urges* strengthening of the relations among the States of South-Eastern Europe on the basis of respect for international law and agreements, in accordance with the principles of good-neighbourliness and mutual respect;

7. *Stresses* the importance of regional efforts aimed at preventing conflicts that endanger the maintenance of international peace and security and, in this regard, notes with satisfaction the role of the Multinational Peace Force for South-Eastern Europe;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of regional efforts in South-Eastern Europe for arms control, disarmament and confidence-building measures;

9. *Recognizes* the seriousness of the problem of anti-personnel mines in South-Eastern Europe and, in this context, welcomes the efforts of the international community in support of mine action and encourages States to join and support these efforts;

10. *Urges* all States to take effective measures against illicit traffic in and circulation of small arms and to help programmes and projects aimed at the safe destruction of surplus stocks of small arms and light weapons, and stresses the importance of closer cooperation among States, inter alia, in crime prevention, combating illicit trade of people, drug trafficking and money-laundering;

11. *Stresses* that closer engagement of the South-Eastern European States in furthering cooperation on the European continent will favourably influence the security, political and economic situation in the region, as well as good-neighbourly relations among the States;

12. *Calls upon* all States and the relevant international organizations to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the subject of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session an item entitled "Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe".

## RESOLUTION 55/28

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/554, para. 7)[5]

### 55/28. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998 and 54/49 of 1 December 1999,

*Recalling also* its resolutions on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, in which, inter alia, it recognized that scientific and technological developments could have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needed to be maintained and encouraged,

*Noting* that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

*Affirming* that it sees in this process the broadest positive opportunities for the further development of civilization, the expansion of opportunities for cooperation for the common good of all States, the enhancement of the creative potential of mankind and additional improvements in the circulation of information in the global community,

*Recalling* in this connection the approaches and principles outlined at the Information Society and Development Conference, held at Midrand, South Africa, from 13 to 15 May 1996,

*Bearing in mind* the results of the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism, held in Paris on 30 July 1996, and the recommendations it made,[6]

*Noting* that the dissemination and use of information technologies and means affect the interests of the entire international community and that optimum effectiveness is enhanced by broad international cooperation,

*Expressing concern* that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the security of States in both civil and military fields,

*Noting* the contribution of those Member States that have submitted their assessments on issues of information security to the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 of resolutions 53/70 and 54/49,

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[5] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Russian Federation.

[6] See A/51/261, annex.

*Taking note* of the reports of the Secretary-General containing those assessments,[7]

*Welcoming* the initiative taken by the Secretariat and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in convening an international meeting of experts at Geneva in August 1999 on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, as well as its results,

*Considering* that the assessments of the Member States contained in the reports of the Secretary-General and the international meeting of experts have contributed to a better understanding of the substance of issues of international information security and related notions,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to promote further at multilateral levels the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible measures to limit the threats emerging in this field;

2. *Considers* that the purpose of such measures could be served through the examination of relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems;

3. *Invites* all Member States to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(*a*) General appreciation of the issues of information security;

(*b*) Definition of basic notions related to information security, including unauthorized interference with or misuse of information and telecommunications systems and information resources;

(*c*) The content of the concepts mentioned in paragraph 2 of the present resolution;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report based on replies received from Member States to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

## RESOLUTION 55/29

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/555, para. 7),[8] by a recorded vote of 97 to 46, with 21 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Tajikistan, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu

### 55/29. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

*The General Assembly*,

*Recognizing* that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

*Concerned* that military applications of scientific and technological developments can contribute significantly to the improvement and upgrading of advanced weapon systems and, in particular, weapons of mass destruction,

*Aware* of the need to follow closely the scientific and technological developments that may have a negative impact on international security and disarmament, and to channel scientific and technological developments for beneficial purposes,

*Cognizant* that the international transfers of dual-use as well as high-technology products, services and know-how for peaceful purposes are important for the economic and social development of States,

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[7] A/54/213 and A/55/140 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[8] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritius, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

*Also cognizant* of the need to regulate such transfers of dual-use goods and technologies and high technology with military applications through multilaterally negotiated, universally applicable, non-discriminatory guidelines,

*Expressing concern* about the growing proliferation of ad hoc and exclusive export control regimes and arrangements for dual-use goods and technologies, which tend to impede the economic and social development of developing countries,

*Recalling* that in the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[9] it was noted with concern that undue restrictions on exports to developing countries of material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes persist,

*Emphasizing* that internationally negotiated guidelines for the transfer of high technology with military applications should take into account the legitimate defence requirements of all States and the requirements for the maintenance of international peace and security, while ensuring that access to high-technology products and services and know-how for peaceful purposes is not denied,

1. *Affirms* that scientific and technological progress should be used for the benefit of all mankind to promote the sustainable economic and social development of all States and to safeguard international security and that international cooperation in the use of science and technology through the transfer and exchange of technological know-how for peaceful purposes should be promoted;

2. *Invites* Member States to undertake additional efforts to apply science and technology for disarmament-related purposes and to make disarmament-related technologies available to interested States;

3. *Urges* Member States to undertake multilateral negotiations with the participation of all interested States in order to establish universally acceptable, non-discriminatory guidelines for international transfers of dual-use goods and technologies and high technology with military applications;

4. *Encourages* United Nations bodies to contribute, within existing mandates, to promoting the application of science and technology for peaceful purposes;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament".

## RESOLUTION 55/30

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/556, para. 7)[10]

### 55/30. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of 3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997, 53/74 of 4 December 1998 and 54/51 of 1 December 1999 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

*Recalling also* the recommendations for the establishment of such a zone in the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (*d*), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[11]

*Emphasizing* the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, which call upon all parties directly concerned to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

*Reaffirming* the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

*Emphasizing* the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

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[9] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[10] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt.

[11] Resolution S-10/2.

*Bearing in mind* the consensus reached by the General Assembly since its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

*Desirous* of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

*Welcoming* all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

*Recognizing* the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

*Emphasizing* the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 54/51,[12]

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[13]

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(44)/RES/28, adopted on 22 September 2000 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-fourth regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;[14]

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (*d*) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[11] and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[12]

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to his report[15] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

## RESOLUTION 55/31

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/557, para. 7),[16] by a recorded vote of 111 to none, with 54 abstentions, as follows:

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[12] A/55/388.

[13] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[14] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fourth Regular Session, 18–22 September 2000* (GC(44)/RES/DEC(2000)).

[15] A/45/435.

[16] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Viet Nam.

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu

## 55/31. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

*Convinced* that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

*Welcoming* the progress achieved in recent years in both nuclear and conventional disarmament,

*Noting* that, despite recent progress in the field of nuclear disarmament, further efforts are necessary towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

*Convinced* that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

*Determined* to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

*Recognizing* that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Considering* that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

*Recognizing* that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

*Bearing in mind* paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[17] the first special session devoted to disarmament, in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

*Recalling* the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament[18] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session,[19] the second special session devoted to disarmament, and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session,[20] the third special session devoted to disarmament, as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[21]

*Recalling also* paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[22] with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

*Taking note* of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

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[17] Resolution S-10/2.

[18] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[19] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-12/2), sect III C.

[20] Ibid., *Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-15/2), sect. III F.

[21] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), sect. III F.

[22] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/48/27), para 39.

*Taking note also* of the relevant decision of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[23] as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

*Taking note further* of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-weapon States,

*Noting* the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

*Taking note* of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995, 51/43 of 10 December 1996, 52/36 of 9 December 1997, 53/75 of 4 December 1998 and 54/52 of 1 December 1999,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Recommends also* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international arrangements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

## RESOLUTION 55/32

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/558, para. 7),[24] by a recorded vote of 163 to none, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe
*Against:* None
*Abstentions:* Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

### 55/32. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

*The General Assembly*,

*Recognizing* the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

*Reaffirming* the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

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[23] See A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[24] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Togo.

*Reaffirming also* the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[25]

*Recalling* the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

*Reaffirming* paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[26] in which it is stated that in order to prevent an arms race in outer space further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on this issue, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions, and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

*Recognizing* that prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

*Emphasizing* the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

*Considering* that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

*Noting* that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,[27] and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

*Noting also* that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,[28]

*Emphasizing* the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts in the field of preventing an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

*Convinced* that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

*Stressing* that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

*Recalling* in this context its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

*Conscious* of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

*Recognizing* that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Ad Hoc Committee and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;[25]

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that this legal regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness, and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

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[25] Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

[26] Resolution S-10/2.

[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/49/27), sect. III.D (para. 5 of the quoted text).

[28] CD/1125.

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to complete the examination and updating of the mandate contained in its decision of 13 February 1992,[28] and to establish an ad hoc committee as early as possible during the 2001 session of the Conference;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

## RESOLUTIONS 55/33 A to Y

## 55/33. General and complete disarmament

### Resolution A

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[29] by a recorded vote of 97 to none, with 65 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

### A

### MISSILES

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/54 F of 1 December 1999,

*Reaffirming* the role of the United Nations in the field of arms regulation and disarmament and the commitment of Member States to take concrete steps to strengthen that role,

*Realizing* the need to promote regional and international peace and security in a world free from the scourge of war and the burden of armaments,

*Convinced* of the need for a comprehensive approach towards missiles, in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner, as a contribution to international peace and security,

*Bearing in mind* that the security concerns of Member States at the international and regional levels should be taken into consideration in addressing the issue of missiles,

*Underlining* the complexities involved in considering the issue of missiles in the conventional context,

*Expressing its support* for the international efforts against the development and proliferation of all weapons of mass destruction,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General, submitted pursuant to resolution 54/54 F,[30]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General further to seek the views of Member States on the issue of missiles in all its aspects and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a panel of governmental experts to be established in 2001 on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, to prepare a report for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the issue of missiles in all its aspects;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Missiles".

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[29] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[30] A/55/116 and Add.1.

### Resolution B

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[31] by a recorded vote of 88 to 5, with 66 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Honduras, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

*Abstentions:* Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela

### B

### PRESERVATION OF AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE TREATY ON THE LIMITATION OF ANTI-BALLISTIC MISSILE SYSTEMS

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 50/60 of 12 December 1995 and 52/30 of 9 December 1997 on compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and its resolution 54/54 A of 1 December 1999 on preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems,[32]

*Recognizing* the historical role of the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems of 26 May 1972 between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as a cornerstone for maintaining global peace and security and strategic stability, and reaffirming its continued validity and relevance, especially in the current international situation,

*Stressing* the paramount importance of full and strict compliance with the Treaty by the parties,

*Recalling* that the provisions of the Treaty are intended as a contribution to the creation of more favourable conditions for further negotiations on limiting strategic arms,

*Mindful* of the obligations of the parties to the Treaty under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[33]

*Concerned* that the implementation of any measures undermining the purposes and provisions of the Treaty affects not only the security interests of the parties, but also those of the whole international community,

*Recalling* the widespread concern about the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

1. *Calls* for continued efforts to strengthen the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems[32] and to preserve its integrity and validity so that it remains a cornerstone in maintaining global strategic stability and world peace and in promoting further strategic nuclear arms reductions;

2. *Calls also* for renewed efforts by each of the States parties to preserve and strengthen the Treaty through full and strict compliance;

3. *Calls upon* the parties to the Treaty, in accordance with their obligations under the Treaty, to limit the deployment of anti-ballistic missile systems, to refrain from the deployment of anti-ballistic missile systems for the defence of the territory of their country, not to provide a base for such a defence and not to transfer to other States or deploy outside their national territory anti-ballistic missile systems or their components limited by the Treaty;

4. *Considers* that the implementation of any measure undermining the purposes and the provisions of the Treaty also undermines global strategic stability and world peace and the promotion of further strategic nuclear arms reductions;

5. *Urges* all Member States to support efforts aimed at stemming the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

6. *Supports* further efforts by the international community, in the light of emerging developments, towards safeguarding the inviolability and integrity of the Treaty, which is in the strongest interest of the international community;

7. *Welcomes* the decision taken by the United States of America on 1 September 2000 not to authorize deployment of a national missile defence at this time, and considers that it constitutes a positive step for the preservation of strategic stability and security;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Preservation of and

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[31] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, China and Russian Federation.

[32] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 944, No. 13446.

[33] Ibid., vol. 729, No. 10485.

compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems".

### Resolution C

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[34] by a recorded vote of 154 to 3, with 8 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* India, Israel, Pakistan

*Abstentions:* Bhutan, France, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritius, Monaco, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

### C

### TOWARDS A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE WORLD: THE NEED FOR A NEW AGENDA

*The General Assembly,*

*Noting* its resolutions 53/77 Y of 4 December 1998 and 54/54 G of 1 December 1999,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the continued risk for humanity represented by the possibility that nuclear weapons could be used,

*Noting* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice, on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued at The Hague on 8 July 1996,[35]

*Noting also* that three States continue to operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities and have not acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[33] and concerned at the continued retention of the nuclear-weapons option by those three States,

*Declaring* that nuclear test explosions carried out in 1998 by two of the States that have not renounced the nuclear-weapons option do not in any way confer a nuclear-weapon State status or any special status whatsoever,

*Noting* that, despite achievements in bilateral and unilateral arms reductions, the total number of nuclear weapons deployed and stockpiled still amount to many thousands,

*Welcoming* the significant progress achieved in nuclear weapon reductions made unilaterally or bilaterally under the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) process, as a step towards nuclear disarmament,

*Welcoming also* the ratification of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START II)[36] by the Russian Federation as an important step in the efforts to reduce strategic offensive weapons, and noting that completion of ratification of START II by the United States of America remains a priority,

*Concerned* that negotiations on nuclear arms reductions are not actively under way,

*Welcoming* the significant unilateral reduction measures taken by other nuclear-weapon States, including the closing down and dismantling of nuclear-weapon-related facilities,

*Welcoming also* the efforts of several States to cooperate in making nuclear disarmament measures irreversible, in particular through the adoption of initiatives on the verification, management and disposition of fissile material declared excess to military purposes,

*Noting* the declaration by the nuclear-weapon States that none of their nuclear weapons are targeted at any State,

*Underlining* the necessity of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Noting* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[37] in which the heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

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[34] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Austria, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mexico, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[35] *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[36] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 18: 1993 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.IX.1), appendix II.

[37] See resolution 55/2.

*Welcoming* the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[38]

*Taking into consideration* the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty are committed under article VI of the Treaty,[39]

*Underlining* the need for action to achieve a world free from nuclear weapons,

*Determined* to pursue practical steps for systematic and progressive efforts to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and paragraphs 3 and 4 (*c*) of the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,[40]

1. *Agrees* on the importance and urgency of signatures and ratifications, without delay and without conditions and in accordance with constitutional processes, to achieve the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[41]

2. *Calls* for the upholding of a moratorium on nuclear-weapon-test explosions or any other nuclear explosions pending entry into force of the above-mentioned Treaty;

3. *Agrees* on the necessity for negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, in accordance with the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995[42] and the mandate contained therein, taking into consideration both nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives, and urges the Conference on Disarmament to agree on a programme of work which includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty, with a view to their conclusion within five years;

4. *Agrees also* on the necessity of establishing within the context of the Conference on Disarmament an appropriate subsidiary body with a mandate to deal with nuclear disarmament, and urges the Conference to agree on a programme of work which includes the immediate establishment of such a body;

5. *Calls* for the principle of irreversibility to apply to nuclear disarmament, nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

6. *Calls also* for the early entry into force and full implementation of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START II)[36] and the conclusion of START III as soon as possible, while preserving and strengthening the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems[32] as a cornerstone of strategic stability and as a basis for further reductions of strategic offensive weapons, in accordance with the provisions of that Treaty;

7. *Calls further* for the completion and implementation of the Trilateral Initiative between the United States of America, the Russian Federation and the International Atomic Energy Agency;

8. *Calls* for steps to be taken by all nuclear-weapon States that would lead to nuclear disarmament in a way that promotes international stability and, based upon the principle of undiminished security for all, for:

(*a*) Further efforts to be made by the nuclear-weapon States to reduce their nuclear arsenals unilaterally;

(*b*) Increased transparency by the nuclear-weapon States with regard to nuclear weapons capabilities, and the implementation of agreements pursuant to article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[33] and as a voluntary confidence-building measure to support further progress in nuclear disarmament;

(*c*) The further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

(*d*) Concrete agreed measures to reduce further the operational status of nuclear weapons systems;

(*e*) A diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies so as to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

(*f*) The engagement, as soon as appropriate, of all the nuclear-weapon States in the process leading to the total elimination of their nuclear weapons;

9. *Calls also* for arrangements by all nuclear-weapon States to place, as soon as practicable, the fissile material designated by each of them as no longer required for military purposes under International Atomic Energy Agency or other relevant international verification and arrangements for the

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[38] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[39] Ibid., vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, art. VI, para. 15:6.

[40] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

[41] See resolution 50/245.

[42] CD/1299.

disposition of such material for peaceful purposes in order to ensure that such material remains permanently outside military programmes;

10. *Reaffirms* that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under effective international control;

11. *Calls* for regular reports, within the framework of the strengthened review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, by all States parties on the implementation of article VI of the Treaty and paragraph 4 (*c*) of the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,[40] and, in this regard, recalls the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996;[35]

12. *Agrees* to pursue the further development of the verification capabilities that will be required to provide assurance of compliance with nuclear disarmament agreements for the achievement and maintenance of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

13. *Calls upon* all States not yet party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States, promptly and without condition, in particular those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, and also calls upon those States to bring into force the required comprehensive safeguards agreements, together with additional protocols, consistent with the Model Protocol Additional to the Agreement(s) between State(s) and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency on 15 May 1997,[43] for ensuring nuclear non-proliferation, and to reverse clearly and urgently any policies to pursue any nuclear weapons development or deployment and refrain from any action that could undermine regional and international peace and security and the efforts of the international community towards nuclear disarmament and the prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation;

14. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to conclude full-scope safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency and to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the Model Protocol;

15. *Notes* the paramount importance of effective physical protection of all nuclear material, and calls upon all States to maintain the highest possible standards of security and physical protection of nuclear materials;

16. *Notes also* that the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons agreed that legally binding security assurances by the five nuclear-weapon States to the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime, and that it called upon the Preparatory Committee to make recommendations on this issue to the 2005 Review Conference;[44]

17. *Reaffirms* the conviction that the establishment of internationally recognized nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realizing the objective of nuclear disarmament, and supports proposals for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones where they do not yet exist, such as in the Middle East and South Asia;

18. *Affirms* that a nuclear-weapon-free world will ultimately require the underpinning of a universal and multilaterally negotiated legally binding instrument or a framework encompassing a mutually reinforcing set of instruments;

19. *Acknowledges* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 54/54 G,[45] and requests him, within existing resources, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda", and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

## Resolution D

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[46] by a recorded vote of 163 to 1, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco,

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[43] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/540 (Corrected).

[44] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, art. VII, para. 2.

[45] A/55/217.

[46] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Algeria.

Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* India

*Abstentions:* Cuba, Israel, Pakistan

## D

### 2000 REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty, in which it was agreed that Review Conferences should continue to be held every five years and that, accordingly, the next Review Conference should be held in the year 2000,[47]

*Recalling also* its resolutions 50/70 Q of 12 December 1995 and 51/45 A of 10 December 1996,

*Recalling further* that the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons met in New York from 24 April to 19 May 2000 to review the operation of the Treaty, as provided for in its article VIII, paragraph 3, taking into account the decisions and the resolution adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference,[48]

*Welcomes* the adoption by consensus on 19 May 2000 of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[38] including in particular the documents entitled "Review of the operation of the Treaty, taking into account the decisions and the resolution adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference" and "Improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process for the Treaty".[49]

## Resolution E

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77)[50]

## E

### UNITED NATIONS STUDY ON DISARMAMENT AND NON-PROLIFERATION EDUCATION

*The General Assembly,*

*Desirous* of stressing the urgency of promoting concerted international efforts at disarmament and non-proliferation, especially in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, with a view to strengthening international security and enhancing sustainable economic and social development,

*Conscious* of the need, more than a decade after the end of the cold war and at the start of the twenty-first century, to combat the negative effects of cultures of violence and complacency in the face of current dangers in this field through long-term programmes of education and training,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, with the assistance of a group of qualified governmental experts, a study on disarmament and non-proliferation, that would have the following aims:

(*a*) To define contemporary disarmament and non-proliferation education and training, taking into account the need to promote a culture of non-violence and peace;

(*b*) To assess the current situation of disarmament and non-proliferation education and training at the primary, secondary, university and postgraduate levels of education, in all regions of the world;

(*c*) To recommend ways to promote education and training in disarmament and non-proliferation at all levels of formal and informal education, in particular the training of educators, parliamentarians, municipal leaders, military officers and government officials;

(*d*) To examine ways to utilize more fully evolving pedagogic methods, particularly the revolution in information and communications technology, including distance learning, to enhance efforts in disarmament education and training at all levels, in the developed and the developing world;

(*e*) To recommend ways in which organizations of the United Nations system with special competence in disarmament or education or both can harmonize and coordinate their efforts in disarmament and non-proliferation education;

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[47] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 1, para. 2.

[48] Ibid., annex.

[49] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document,* vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I.

[50] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Chile, Egypt, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Mozambique, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand and Ukraine.

(*f*) To devise ways to introduce disarmament and non-proliferation education into post-conflict situations as a contribution to peace-building;

and considers that the group of experts should invite representatives of organizations of the United Nations system with special competence in disarmament or education or both to participate in its work, and should also invite university educators, disarmament and peace-related institutes and non-governmental organizations that have special qualifications in education and training or in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation to make written and oral presentations to it;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on this question.

### Resolution F

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77)[51]

### F

### ASSISTANCE TO STATES FOR CURBING THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN SMALL ARMS AND COLLECTING THEM

*The General Assembly,*

*Considering* that the proliferation, illicit circulation of and traffic in small arms constitute an impediment to development, and a threat to populations and to national and regional security and are a factor contributing to the destabilization of States,

*Gravely concerned* at the extent of the proliferation, illicit circulation of and traffic in small arms in the States of the Saharo-Sahelian subregion,

*Welcoming* the conclusions of the United Nations advisory missions sent to the affected countries of the subregion by the Secretary-General to study the best way of curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and collecting them,

*Welcoming also* the designation of the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat as the coordination centre for all United Nations activities concerning small arms,

*Thanking* the Secretary-General for his report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[52] and bearing in mind the statement on small arms made by the President of the Security Council on 24 September 1999,[53]

*Welcoming* the recommendations made at the meetings of the States of the subregion held at Banjul, Algiers, Bamako, Yamoussoukro and Niamey to establish close regional cooperation with a view to strengthening security,

*Welcoming also* the initiative taken by the Economic Community of West African States concerning the declaration of a moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa,

*Recalling* the Algiers Declaration adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,[54] and bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity on the proliferation, illicit circulation of and traffic in small arms,

*Emphasizing* the need to advance efforts towards wider cooperation and better coordination in the struggle against the stockpiling, proliferation and widespread use of small arms, inter alia, through the common understanding reached at the meeting on small arms held at Oslo on 13 and 14 July 1998[55] and the Brussels Call for Action adopted by the International Conference on Sustainable Disarmament for Sustainable Development, held at Brussels on 12 and 13 October 1998,[56] as adopted in document A/53/681, paragraph 4,

1. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the Declaration of the Ministerial Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa, held at Abuja on 8 and 9 May 2000,[57] encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts, in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994 and of the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions, to curb the illicit circulation of small arms and to collect such arms in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the Organization of African Unity;

2. *Encourages* the setting up in the countries in the Saharo-Sahelian subregion of national commissions against the proliferation of small arms, and invites the international community to support as far as possible the smooth functioning of the national commissions where they have been set up;

3. *Welcomes* the Declaration of a Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and

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[51] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belgium, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Netherlands, Niger, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[52] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[53] S/PRST/1999/28; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999.*

[54] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Decl.1 (XXXV).

[55] See CD/1556.

[56] A/53/681, annex.

[57] A/55/286, annex II, decision AHG/Decl.4 (XXXVI).

Light Weapons in West Africa, adopted by the heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States at Abuja on 31 October 1998,[58] and urges the international community to give its support to the implementation of the moratorium;

4. *Recommends* the involvement of organizations and associations of civil society in efforts to combat the illicit circulation of small arms in the context of the national commissions and their participation in the implementation of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms;

5. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Economic Community of West African States, held at Bamako on 24 and 25 March 1999, on the modalities for the implementation of the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development, and welcomes the adoption by the meeting of a plan of action;

6. *Expresses its full support* for the appeal launched by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session for a coordinated African approach, under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity, to the problems posed by the proliferation, illicit circulation of and traffic in small arms, bearing in mind the experiences and activities of the various regions in this regard;[59]

7. *Encourages* cooperation among State bodies, international organizations and civil society in combating the illicit circulation of small arms and supporting operations at the subregional level;

8. *Expresses its full support* for the convening of a United Nations conference on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects in June/July 2001, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/54 V of 15 December 1999;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to examine the question and to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them".

## Resolution G

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77)[60]

### G

### CONSOLIDATION OF PEACE THROUGH PRACTICAL DISARMAMENT MEASURES

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/45 N of 10 December 1996, 52/38 G of 9 December 1997, 53/77 M of 4 December 1998 and 54/54 H of 1 December 1999,

*Convinced* that a comprehensive and integrated approach towards certain practical disarmament measures, such as arms control, particularly with regard to small arms and light weapons, confidence-building measures, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, demining and conversion, often is a prerequisite to maintaining and consolidating peace and security and thus provides a basis for effective rehabilitation and social and economic development in areas that have suffered from conflict,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the international community is more than ever aware of the importance of such practical disarmament measures, especially with regard to the growing problems arising from the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and proliferation of small arms and light weapons, which pose a threat to peace and security and reduce the prospects for economic development in many regions, particularly in post-conflict situations,

*Stressing* that further efforts are needed in order to develop and effectively implement programmes of practical disarmament in affected areas,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms,[61] and in particular the recommendations contained therein, as an important contribution to the consolidation of the peace process through practical disarmament measures,

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[58] A/53/763-S/1998/1194, annex.

[59] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Dec.137 (XXXV), para. 10.

[60] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[61] A/54/258.

*Taking into account* the deliberations at the 2000 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission in Working Group II on agenda item 5, entitled "Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms",[62] and encouraging the Disarmament Commission to continue its efforts aimed at the identification of such measures,

1. *Stresses*, in the context of the present resolution, the particular relevance of the "Guidelines on conventional arms control/limitation and disarmament, with particular emphasis on consolidation of peace in the context of General Assembly resolution 51/45 N",[63] adopted by the Disarmament Commission by consensus at its 1999 substantive session;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures, submitted pursuant to resolution 51/45 N,[64] and once again encourages Member States, as well as regional arrangements and agencies, to lend their support to the implementation of the recommendations contained therein;

3. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by the group of interested States that was formed in New York in March 1998, and invites the group to continue to analyse lessons learned from previous disarmament and peace-building projects, as well as to promote new practical disarmament measures to consolidate peace, especially as undertaken or designed by affected States themselves;

4. *Encourages* Member States, including the group of interested States, to lend their support to the Secretary-General in responding to requests by Member States to collect and destroy small arms and light weapons in post-conflict situations;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures".

## Resolution H

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77)[65]

## H

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING AND USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical weapons, in particular resolution 54/54 E of 1 December 1999, adopted without a vote, in which it noted with appreciation the ongoing work to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[66]

*Determined* to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

*Noting with satisfaction* that since the adoption of resolution 54/54 E, fourteen additional States have ratified or acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States parties to the Convention to one hundred and forty,

1. *Emphasizes* the necessity of universal adherence to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[66] and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in verifying compliance with the provisions of the Convention as well as in promoting the timely and efficient accomplishment of all its objectives;

4. *Also stresses* the vital importance of full and effective implementation of and compliance with all provisions of the Convention;

5. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities;

6. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the

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[62] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/55/42), para. 29.

[63] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex III.

[64] A/52/289.

[65] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Canada and Poland.

[66] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), appendix I.

States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

7. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the signature of the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction".

## Resolution I

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[67] by a recorded vote of 159 to 4, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* France, Monaco, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Andorra, India, Israel, Russian Federation, Spain

### I

### NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE AND ADJACENT AREAS

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/45 B of 10 December 1996, 52/38 N of 9 December 1997, 53/77 Q of 4 December 1998 and 54/54 L of 1 December 1999,

*Welcoming* the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of a text entitled "Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned",[68]

*Determined* to pursue the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Determined also* to continue to contribute to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to the process of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, in particular in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[69] the first special session devoted to disarmament,

*Stressing* the importance of the treaties of Tlatelolco,[70] Rarotonga,[71] Bangkok[72] and Pelindaba,[73] establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,[74] to, inter alia, achieve a world entirely free of nuclear weapons,

*Underlining* the value of enhancing cooperation among the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty members by means of mechanisms such as joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to those treaties,

*Recalling* the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of passage through maritime space, including those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[75]

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[67] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Madagascar, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[68] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I.

[69] Resolution S-10/2.

[70] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[71] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[72] Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.

[73] A/50/426, annex.

[74] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

1. *Welcomes* the continued contribution that the Antarctic Treaty[74] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[70] Rarotonga,[71] Bangkok[72] and Pelindaba[73] are making towards freeing the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons;

2. *Calls* for the ratification of the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba by all States of the region concerned, and calls upon all concerned States to continue to work together in order to facilitate adherence to the protocols to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties by all relevant States that have not yet done so;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken to conclude further nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, and calls upon all States to consider all relevant proposals, including those reflected in its resolutions on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in the Middle East and South Asia;

4. *Convinced* of the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, calls upon all States to support the process of nuclear disarmament and to work for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons;

5. *Calls upon* the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, in order to pursue the common goals envisaged in those treaties and to promote the nuclear-weapon-free status of the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas, to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies;

6. *Welcomes* the vigorous efforts being made among States parties and signatories to those treaties to promote their common objectives, and considers that an international conference of States parties and signatories to the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties might be held to support the common goals envisaged in those treaties;

7. *Encourages* the competent authorities of the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties to provide assistance to the States parties and signatories to such treaties so as to facilitate the accomplishment of these goals;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas".

### Resolution J

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[76] by a recorded vote of 163 to none, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Republic of Korea, United States of America

## J

## MEASURES TO UPHOLD THE AUTHORITY OF THE 1925 GENEVA PROTOCOL

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 53/77 L of 4 December 1998,

*Determined* to act with a view to achieving effective progress towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

*Recalling* the long-standing determination of the international community to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical and biological weapons as well as the continuing support for measures to uphold the authority of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or

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[75] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

[76] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925,[77] as expressed by consensus in many previous resolutions,

*Welcoming* the end of the cold war, the ensuing easing of international tension and the strengthening of trust between States,

*Welcoming also* the initiatives by some States parties to withdraw their reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol,

1. *Renews its previous call* to all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925,[77] and reaffirms the vital necessity of upholding its provisions;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the recent withdrawal of reservations by two State parties to the Geneva Protocol;[78]

3. *Calls upon* those States that continue to maintain reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol to withdraw those reservations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## Resolution K

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[79] by a recorded vote of 165 to none, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

### K

### OBSERVANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL NORMS IN THE DRAFTING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENTS ON DISARMAMENT AND ARMS CONTROL

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 50/70 M of 12 December 1995, 51/45 E of 10 December 1996, 52/38 E of 9 December 1997, 53/77 J of 4 December 1998 and 54/54 S of 1 December 1999,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements,

*Recognizing* that it is necessary to take duly into account the agreements adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as prior relevant agreements, in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms limitation,

*Mindful* of the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should fully contribute to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress in the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;[80]

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing this information to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

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[77] League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138.

[78] See A/55/115 and Add.1.

[79] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[80] See A/55/129.

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control".

## Resolution L

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77)[81]

### L

### RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[69] concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,

*Recalling also* the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[82]

*Recalling further* its resolutions 49/75 J of 15 December 1994, 50/70 G of 12 December 1995, 51/45 D of 10 December 1996, 52/38 D of 9 December 1997, 53/77 K of 4 December 1998 and 54/54 T of 1 December 1999,

*Bearing in mind* the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[83] and the final document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,[84]

*Welcoming* the different activities organized by the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[85]

*Stressing* the growing importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development in current international relations,

1. *Calls upon* the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development to strengthen and enhance its programme of activities, in accordance with the mandate set out in the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;[86]

2. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

3. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General, by 15 April 2001, their views and proposals for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, as well as any other views and proposals with a view to achieving the goals of the action programme, within the framework of current international relations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the International Conference;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

## Resolution M

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77)[87]

### M

### CONVENING OF THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 49/75 I of 15 December 1994, 50/70 F of 12 December 1995, 51/45 C of 10 December 1996, 52/38 F of 9 December 1997, 53/77 AA of 4 December 1998 and 54/54 U of 1 December 1999,

*Recalling also* that, there being a consensus to do so in each case, three special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament were held in 1978, 1982 and 1988, respectively,

*Bearing in mind* the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[69] adopted by consensus at the first special session devoted to disarmament, which included the Declaration, the Programme of Action and the Machinery for disarmament,

*Bearing in mind also* the objective of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

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[81] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[82] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8.

[83] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[84] A/54/917-S/2000/580, annex.

[85] A/55/258.

[86] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8, para. 35.

[87] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

*Taking note* of paragraph 145 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[83] which supported the convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which would offer an opportunity to review, from a perspective more in tune with the current international situation, the most critical aspects of the process of disarmament and to mobilize the international community and public opinion in favour of the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and of the control and reduction of conventional weapons,

*Taking note also* of the report of the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission[88] and of the fact that no consensus was reached on the item entitled "Fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament",

*Desiring* to build upon the substantive exchange of views on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament during the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission,

*Reiterating its conviction* that a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament can set the future course of action in the field of disarmament, arms control and related international security matters,

*Emphasizing* the importance of multilateralism in the process of disarmament, arms control and related international security matters,

*Noting* that, with the recent accomplishments made by the international community in the field of weapons of mass destruction as well as conventional arms, the following years would be opportune for the international community to start the process of reviewing the state of affairs in the entire field of disarmament and arms control in the post-cold-war era,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General[89] regarding the views of States Members of the United Nations on the objectives, agenda and timing of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,

1. *Decides*, subject to the emergence of a consensus on its objectives and agenda, to convene the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of States Members of the United Nations on the objectives, agenda and timing of the special session and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament".

## Resolution N

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[90] by a recorded vote of 110 to 45, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Argentina, Armenia, Brazil, China, Georgia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

### N

### REDUCING NUCLEAR DANGER

*The General Assembly*,

*Bearing in mind* that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

*Reaffirming* that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Convinced* that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects would seriously enhance the danger of nuclear war,

*Convinced also* that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

*Considering* that, until nuclear weapons cease to exist, it is imperative on the part of the nuclear-weapon States to adopt measures that assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

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[88] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42).

[89] A/55/130 and Add.1.

[90] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bhutan, Costa Rica, Cuba, Fiji, India, Kenya, Mauritius, Namibia, Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

*Considering also* that the hair-trigger alert of nuclear weapons carries unacceptable risks of unintentional or accidental use of nuclear weapons, which would have catastrophic consequences for all mankind,

*Emphasizing* the imperative need to adopt measures to avoid accidental, unauthorized or unexplained incidents arising from computer anomaly or other technical malfunctions,

*Conscious* that limited steps relating to detargeting have been taken by the nuclear-weapon States and that further practical, realistic and mutually reinforcing steps are necessary to contribute to the improvement in the international climate for negotiations leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Mindful* that reduction of tensions brought about by a change in nuclear doctrines would positively impact on international peace and security and improve the conditions for the further reduction and the elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Reiterating* the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[69] and by the international community,

*Recalling* that in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*[35] it is stated that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

*Welcoming* the call in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[37] to seek to eliminate the dangers posed by weapons of mass destruction and the resolve to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

1. *Calls* for a review of nuclear doctrines and, in this context, immediate and urgent steps to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Requests* the five nuclear-weapon States to take measures towards the implementation of paragraph 1 of the present resolution;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to promote nuclear disarmament, with the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons;

4. *Takes note* of the report[91] prepared by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters and submitted by the Secretary-General in pursuance of paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 54/54 K of 1 December 1999, including the need for the Board to continue its discussions on the subject;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to continue to seek inputs from the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters on information with regard to specific measures that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war, including the proposal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration for convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of the fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Reducing nuclear danger".

## Resolution O

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77)[92]

### O

### REGIONAL DISARMAMENT

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995, 51/45 K of 10 December 1996, 52/38 P of 9 December 1997, 53/77 O of 4 December 1998 and 54/54 N of 1 December 1999 on regional disarmament,

*Believing* that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

*Affirming* the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

*Noting* that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,[69]

*Taking note* of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,[93]

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[91] See A/55/324.

[92] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Egypt, Fiji, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tunisia and Turkey.

[93] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II.

*Welcoming* the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

*Taking note* of the recent proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels,

*Recognizing* the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

*Convinced* that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;

2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Regional disarmament".

## Resolution P

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[94] by a recorded vote of 163 to 1, with 1 abstention, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* India

*Abstentions:* Bhutan

### P

### CONVENTIONAL ARMS CONTROL AT THE REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL LEVELS

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995, 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996, 52/38 Q of 9 December 1997, 53/77 P of 4 December 1998 and 54/54 M of 1 December 1999,

*Recognizing* the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

*Convinced* that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

*Aware* that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

*Desirous* of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

*Noting with particular interest* the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe,[95] which is a cornerstone of European security,

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[94] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Belarus, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine.

*Believing* that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

*Believing also* that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament, as a first step, to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

## Resolution Q

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77)[96]

### Q

### ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/54 R of 1 December 1999,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his report,[97]

*Recognizing* the human suffering caused by illicit trafficking in small arms and that Governments bear the responsibility of intensifying their efforts by developing an understanding of the issues and practical ways of addressing the problem,

*Bearing in mind* the interface among violence, criminality, drug trafficking, the illicit trade in diamonds, terrorism and illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons,

*Stressing* the importance of the efforts to elaborate an international convention against transnational organized crime, including a protocol to combat the illicit manufacturing of and illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, within the framework of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

*Convinced* of the importance of national, regional and international measures to combat illicit trafficking in and illicit circulation of small arms and light weapons, including those suited to indigenous regional approaches,

*Welcoming*, in this regard, the decision by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, to convene an African ministerial conference on the illicit proliferation, circulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons at Bamako in November 2000, the establishment of the Consultative Committee by the States parties to the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials, the decision by the Council of Ministers of the Southern African Development Community to conclude its negotiations on a protocol on the control of firearms, ammunition and other related materials in the region of the Southern African Development Community, the decision by the States members of the Economic Community of West African States to implement their Declaration of a Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light Weapons in West Africa,[58] and the adoption by the European Union of the Programme for Preventing and Combating Illicit Trafficking in Conventional Arms and the other initiatives it has taken, such as the Joint Action on Small Arms[98] that has been endorsed by several Member States not members of the European Union,

*Noting*, in this regard, the commitments made by the Foreign Ministers of the Group of Eight industrialized countries, contained in the Miyazaki Initiatives for Conflict Prevention,[99] the Foreign Ministers of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, the members of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe in the Joint Declaration on Responsible Arms Transfers, the members of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe at the Istanbul Summit, the members of the South Pacific Forum in the Nadi Framework of principles, and by participants in the Great Lakes Region and Horn of Africa Conference on the Proliferation of Small Arms in the Nairobi Declaration on the Problem of the Proliferation of Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa,[100]

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[95] CD/1064.

[96] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[97] A/55/323 and Add.1.

[98] A/54/374, annex.

[99] A/55/161-S/2000/714, annex.

*Noting also* that several regional and subregional workshops, seminars and conferences were held and that individual States have undertaken initiatives to promote measures to combat illicit trafficking in and illicit circulation of small arms and light weapons,

*Welcoming* the assistance provided by States in support of bilateral, regional and multilateral initiatives aimed at addressing illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons and, in this regard, welcoming also the establishment of the United Nations Development Programme Trust Fund for Support to Prevention and Reduction of the Proliferation of Small Arms, the United Nations Trust Fund for the Consolidation of Peace through Practical Disarmament Measures and the United Nations Global and Regional Disarmament Trust Fund,

*Welcoming also* the preparatory process for the 2001 United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, bearing in mind the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in his report on small arms,[101] prepared with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms, as well as the views of Member States on the objectives, scope, agenda, dates and venue of the Conference,[102]

*Recalling* the presidential statement issued by the Security Council on 24 September 1999[103] and the request of the Council therein to the Secretary-General to develop, with the assistance of technical experts and the support of Member States, a reference manual for use in the field on ecologically safe methods of weapons, ammunition and explosives destruction in order better to enable Member States to ensure the disposal of weapons, ammunition and explosives voluntarily surrendered by civilians or retrieved from former combatants,

*Considering* that the United Nations could, through a coordinated approach, collect, share and disseminate information to Member States on useful and successful practices to prevent the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, and mindful of the role of the mechanism for coordinating action on small arms in this regard,

*Recalling* that the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, respectively, held workshops on illicit trafficking in small arms at Lomé and Lima in 1999, and noting with appreciation the regional seminar held at Jakarta on 3 and 4 May 2000 under the auspices of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific,

*Mindful* of the impact of surplus small arms and light weapons on the illicit trade in these weapons, and welcoming the practical measures taken by States to destroy surplus weapons and confiscated or collected weapons, in accordance with the recommendations of the Secretary-General in his report on small arms,[101]

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his broad-based consultations, within available financial resources and with any other assistance provided by States in a position to do so, and to provide the 2001 United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects with information on the magnitude and scope of illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, measures to combat illicit trafficking in and circulation of small arms and light weapons, and the role of the United Nations in collecting, collating, sharing and disseminating information on illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons;

2. *Encourages* States to promote regional and subregional initiatives and requests the Secretary-General, within available financial resources, and those States in a position to do so, to assist States in undertaking such initiatives to address the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons in affected regions, and invites the Secretary-General to utilize these initiatives as part of his consultations;

3. *Encourages also* States in a position to do so to take appropriate national measures to destroy surplus, confiscated or collected small arms and light weapons, and to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to the Secretary-General on the types and quantities of arms destroyed as well as the methods of their destruction, and requests the Secretary-General to circulate this information annually to all States;

4. *Invites* States in a position to do so to continue to provide assistance, bilaterally, regionally and through multilateral channels, such as the United Nations, in support of measures associated with combating illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, including assistance, in response to requests by States, in collecting and destroying surplus, confiscated or collected small arms and light weapons;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General to provide advisory and financial assistance, within available financial resources and with any other assistance provided by States in a position to do so, in response to requests by States, in support of measures associated with combating illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, including assistance in collecting and destroying surplus, confiscated or collected small arms and light weapons;

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[100] A/54/860-S/2000/385, annex.

[101] A/54/258.

[102] A/54/260 and Add.1-3.

[103] S/PRST/1999/28; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999.*

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session an item entitled "Illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons".

### Resolution R

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[104] by a recorded vote of 155 to 1, with 12 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* India

*Abstentions:* Bhutan, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, France, Israel, Mauritius, Monaco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Russian Federation

### R

### A PATH TO THE TOTAL ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 49/75 H of 15 December 1994, 50/70 C of 12 December 1995, 51/45 G of 10 December 1996, 52/38 K of 9 December 1997, 53/77 U of 4 December 1998 and 54/54 D of 1 December 1999,

*Recognizing* that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament mutually complement and strengthen each other,

*Reaffirming* the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[33] as the cornerstone of the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation and as an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament,

*Recalling* the progress made by the nuclear-weapon States in the reduction of their nuclear weapons unilaterally or through negotiation, and the efforts made towards nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation by the international community,

*Reaffirming* the conviction that further advancement in nuclear disarmament will contribute to consolidating the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation, ensuring international peace and security,

*Bearing in mind* the recent nuclear tests, as well as the regional situations, which pose a challenge to international efforts to strengthen the global regime for non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,

*Taking note* of the report of the Tokyo Forum for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament,[105] bearing in mind the various views of Member States on the report,

*Welcoming* the successful adoption of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[38] which contains, inter alia, an unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of achieving the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[33] and calls upon States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it as non-nuclear-weapon States without delay and without conditions;

2. *Also reaffirms* the importance for all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to fulfil their obligations under the Treaty;

3. *Stresses* the central importance of taking the following practical steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and paragraphs 3 and 4 (*c*) of the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty:[40]

(*a*) The early signature and ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[41] by all States, especially by those States whose ratification is required for its entry into force, with a view to its early entry into force before 2003, as well as a moratorium on nuclear-weapon-test explosions or any other nuclear explosions pending its entry into force;

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[104] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Australia and Japan.

[105] A/54/205-S/1999/853, annex.

(*b*) The immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament and the conclusion as early as possible before 2005 of a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, in accordance with the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995[42] and the mandate contained therein, taking into consideration both nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation objectives and, pending its entry into force, a moratorium on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons;

(*c*) The establishment of an appropriate subsidiary body of the Conference on Disarmament in the context of establishing a programme of work, with a mandate to deal with nuclear disarmament;

(*d*) The inclusion of the principle of irreversibility to apply to nuclear disarmament, nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

(*e*) The early entry into force and full implementation of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START II)[36] and the conclusion of START III as soon as possible, while preserving and strengthening the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems of 26 May 1972 between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics[32] as a cornerstone of strategic stability and as a basis for further reductions of strategic offensive weapons, in accordance with its provisions;

(*f*) Steps by all nuclear-weapon States leading to nuclear disarmament in a way that promotes international stability, and based on the principle of undiminished security for all:

(i) Further efforts by all nuclear-weapon States to continue to reduce their nuclear arsenals, unilaterally or through negotiation;

(ii) Increased transparency by the nuclear-weapon States with regard to their nuclear weapons capabilities and the implementation of agreements pursuant to article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and as voluntary confidence-building measures to support further progress in nuclear disarmament;

(iii) The further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

(iv) Concrete agreed measures to reduce further the operational status of nuclear weapons systems;

(v) A diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies so as to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

(vi) The engagement, as soon as appropriate, of all nuclear-weapon States in the process leading to the total elimination of their nuclear weapons;

4. *Recognizes* that the realization of a world free of nuclear weapons will require further steps by the nuclear-weapon States, including:

(*a*) The continuation of the nuclear disarmament process beyond START III;

(*b*) Deeper reductions by all nuclear-weapon States, unilaterally or through negotiation, in nuclear weapons in the process of working towards their elimination;

5. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States to keep the States Members of the United Nations duly informed of the progress or efforts made towards nuclear disarmament;

6. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts in the dismantlement of nuclear weapons, notes the importance of the safe and effective management of the resultant fissile materials and calls for arrangements by all nuclear-weapon States to place, as soon as practicable, the fissile material designated by each of them as no longer required for military purposes under the International Atomic Energy Agency or other relevant international verification and arrangements for the disposition of such material for peaceful purposes in order to ensure that such material remains permanently outside military programmes;

7. *Stresses* the importance of further development of the verification capabilities, including International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, that will be required to provide assurance of compliance with nuclear disarmament agreements for the achievement and maintenance of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

8. *Calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, including their means of delivery, confirming and strengthening, if necessary, their policies not to transfer equipment, materials or technology that could contribute to the proliferation of those weapons;

9. *Also calls upon* all States to maintain the highest possible standards of security, safe custody, effective control and physical protection of all materials that could contribute to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the Model Protocol Additional to the Agreement(s) between State(s) and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards[43] with a view to enhancing nuclear non-proliferation, and encourages all States which have not done so to conclude an additional protocol with the International Atomic Energy Agency as soon as possible;

11. *Welcomes* the adoption by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on 22 September 2000 of resolution GC(44)/RES/19,[106] which contains elements of a plan of action to promote and facilitate the conclusion and entry into force of safeguards agreements and additional protocols, and calls for the early and full implementation of that resolution;

12. *Encourages* the constructive role played by civil society in promoting nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament.

## Resolution S

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77)[107]

### S

### MONGOLIA'S INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE STATUS

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/77 D of 4 December 1998,

*Recalling also* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[108]

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 49/31 of 9 December 1994 on the protection and security of small States,

*Proceeding* from the fact that nuclear-weapon-free status is one of the means of ensuring the national security of States,

*Convinced* that the internationally recognized status of Mongolia will contribute to enhancing stability and confidence-building in the region as well as promote Mongolia's security by strengthening its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders and the preservation of its ecological balance,

*Welcoming* the measures taken to implement resolution 53/77 D at the national and international levels,[109]

*Recalling* that in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held at Headquarters from 24 April to 19 May 2000, the Conference welcomed the declaration by Mongolia of its nuclear-weapon-free status and took note of the adoption by the Mongolian parliament of legislation defining and regulating that status,[110]

*Taking note* of the efforts undertaken by the five nuclear-weapon States and Mongolia to implement the provisions of the resolution concerning Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status,

*Taking note also* of the joint statement of the five nuclear-weapon States made on 5 October 2000[111] on security assurances in connection with Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, including their commitment to Mongolia to cooperate in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/77 D with respect to Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, in accordance with the principles of the Charter,

*Noting* that the joint statement has been transmitted to the Security Council by the five nuclear-weapon States,[112]

*Welcoming* Mongolia's active and positive role in developing peaceful, friendly and mutually beneficial relations with the States of the region and other States,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 53/77 D,[113]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 53/77 D entitled "Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status";[113]

2. *Takes note also* of the adoption by the Mongolian parliament of legislation defining and regulating its nuclear-weapon-free status as a concrete step towards promoting the aims of nuclear non-proliferation;

3. *Welcomes* the joint statement of the five nuclear-weapon States[111] providing security assurances to Mongolia in connection with its nuclear-weapon-free status as a contribution to implementing resolution 53/77 D;

4. *Endorses and supports* Mongolia's good-neighbourly and balanced relationship with its neighbours as an important element of strengthening regional peace, security and stability;

5. *Invites* Member States to continue to cooperate with Mongolia in taking the necessary measures to consolidate and strengthen Mongolia's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders, its economic security, its ecological balance and its nuclear-weapon-free status, as well as its independent foreign policy;

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[106] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fourth Regular Session, 18–22 September 2000* (GC(44)/RES/DEC(2000)).

[107] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Mongolia.

[108] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[109] See A/55/166 and A/55/181.

[110] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, art. VII, para. 8.

[111] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, First Committee*, 6th meeting, and corrigendum.

[112] A/55/530-S/2000/1052, annex.

[113] A/55/166.

6. *Appeals* to the Member States of the Asia and Pacific region to support Mongolia's efforts to join the relevant regional security and economic arrangements;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations bodies to continue to provide assistance to Mongolia in taking the necessary measures mentioned in paragraph 5 above;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status".

## Resolution T

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[114] by a recorded vote of 109 to 39, with 20 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Georgia, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, San Marino, Sweden, Tajikistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan

### T

### NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat, and its resolutions 50/70 P of 12 December 1995, 51/45 O of 10 December 1996, 52/38 L of 9 December 1997, 53/77 X of 4 December 1998 and 54/54 P of 1 December 1999 on nuclear disarmament,

*Reaffirming* the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

*Bearing in mind* that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972[115] and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993[66] have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

*Recognizing* that there now exist conditions for the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons,

*Bearing in mind* paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[69] the first special session devoted to disarmament, calling for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems, and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time-frames, wherever feasible, for the progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

*Noting* the reiteration by the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[33] of their conviction that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament and the reaffirmation by the States parties of the importance of the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty,[116] the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament,[116] the decision on the extension of the Treaty[116] and the resolution on the Middle East,[116] adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension

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[114] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Panama, Philippines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[115] Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

[116] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Reiterating* the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

*Recognizing* that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[41] and any proposed treaty on fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices must constitute disarmament measures, and not only non-proliferation measures,

*Welcoming* the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I),[117] to which Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America are States parties,

*Welcoming also* the ratification of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START II)[36] by the Russian Federation, and looking forward to its early entry into force and its full implementation and to an early commencement of START III negotiations,

*Noting with appreciation* the unilateral measures by the nuclear-weapon States for nuclear arms limitation, and encouraging them to take further such measures,

*Recognizing* the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament, and that bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiations in this respect,

*Noting* the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and the multilateral efforts in the Conference on Disarmament to reach agreement on such an international convention at an early date,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996,[35] and welcoming the unanimous reaffirmation by all Judges of the Court that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

*Mindful* of paragraph 114 and other relevant recommendations in the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[83] calling upon the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc committee to commence negotiations in 1998 on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament and for the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

*Recalling* paragraph 72 of the final document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,[84]

1. *Recognizes* that, in view of recent political developments, the time is now opportune for all the nuclear-weapon States to take effective disarmament measures with a view to the elimination of these weapons;

2. *Also recognizes* that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

3. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;

4. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons and to take other concrete measures to reduce further the operational status of their nuclear weapon systems;

5. *Reiterates its call upon* the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat and to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to the total elimination of these weapons;

6. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on the joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and calls upon all States to conclude an internationally and legally binding instrument on security assurances of non-use and non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States;

7. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of nuclear weapons as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;

8. *Underlines* the importance of applying the principle of irreversibility to the process of nuclear disarmament, nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

9. *Welcomes* the positive outcome of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the unequivocal undertaking by the

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[117] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 16: 1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the Review Conference, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty,[39] and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,[44] and calls for the full and effective implementation of the steps set out in the Final Document;

10. *Calls* for the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament, on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[42] and the mandate contained therein;

11. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on a programme of work which includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty with a view to their conclusion within five years;

12. *Calls* for the conclusion of an international legal instrument or instruments on adequate security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States;

13. *Calls also* for the early entry into force and strict observance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[41]

14. *Expresses its regret* that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament at its 2000 session, as called for in General Assembly resolution 54/54 P;

15. *Reiterates its call upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament early in 2001 and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons;

16. *Calls* for the convening of an international conference on nuclear disarmament in all its aspects at an early date to identify and deal with concrete measures of nuclear disarmament;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

## Resolution U

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[118] by a recorded vote of 149 to none, with 16 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* Algeria, Bahrain, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates

### U

### TRANSPARENCY IN ARMAMENTS

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991, 47/52 L of 15 December 1992, 48/75 E of 16 December 1993, 49/75 C of 15 December 1994, 50/70 D of 12 December 1995,

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[118] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

51/45 H of 10 December 1996, 52/38 R of 9 December 1997, 53/77 V of 4 December 1998 and 54/54 O of 1 December 1999 entitled "Transparency in armaments",

*Continuing to take the view* that an enhanced level of transparency in armaments contributes greatly to confidence-building and security among States and that the establishment of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms[119] constitutes an important step forward in the promotion of transparency in military matters,

*Welcoming* the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the Register,[120] which includes the returns of Member States for 1999,

*Welcoming also* the response of Member States to the request contained in paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 46/36 L to provide data on their imports and exports of arms, as well as available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies,

*Welcoming further* the report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development,[121]

*Stressing* that the continuing operation of the Register and its further development should be reviewed in order to secure a Register that is capable of attracting the widest possible participation,

1. *Reaffirms* its determination to ensure the effective operation of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms,[119] as provided for in paragraphs 7 to 10 of resolution 46/36 L;

2. *Endorses* the report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and the recommendations contained therein;[121]

3. *Calls upon* Member States, with a view to achieving universal participation, to provide the Secretary-General by 31 May annually with the requested data and information for the Register, including nil reports if appropriate, on the basis of resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L, the recommendations contained in paragraph 64 of the 1997 report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development[122] and the recommendations contained in paragraph 94 of the 2000 report of the Secretary-General and the appendices and annexes thereto;[121]

4. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so, pending further development of the Register, to provide additional information on procurement from national production and military holdings and to make use of the "Remarks" column in the standardized reporting form to provide additional information such as types or models;

5. *Reaffirms* its decision, with a view to further development of the Register, to keep the scope of and participation in the Register under review and, to that end:

(*a*) Recalls its request to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with their views on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and on transparency measures related to weapons of mass destruction;

(*b*) Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened in 2003, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament, the views expressed by Member States and the reports of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, with a view to a decision at its fifty-eighth session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations in his 2000 report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and to ensure that sufficient resources are made available for the Secretariat to operate and maintain the Register;

7. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to consider continuing its work undertaken in the field of transparency in armaments;

8. *Reiterates its call upon* all Member States to cooperate at the regional and subregional levels, taking fully into account the specific conditions prevailing in the region or subregion, with a view to enhancing and coordinating international efforts aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on progress made in implementing the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

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[119] See resolution 46/36 L.

[120] A/55/299 and Add.1-5.

[121] See A/55/281.

[122] A/52/316 and Corr.2.

## Resolution V

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[123] by a recorded vote of 143 to none, with 22 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* Azerbaijan, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

## V

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/54 B of 1 December 1999,

*Reaffirming* its determination to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, which kill or maim hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians and especially children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons, and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement,

*Believing it necessary* to do the utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to facing the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world, and to assure their destruction,

*Wishing* to do the utmost in ensuring assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration, of mine victims,

*Welcoming* the entry into force on 1 March 1999 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[124] and noting with satisfaction the work undertaken to implement the Convention and the substantial progress made towards addressing the global landmine problem,

*Recalling* the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, held at Maputo from 3 to 7 May 1999, and the reaffirmation made in the Maputo Declaration[125] of a commitment to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines,

*Recalling also* the Second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Geneva from 11 to 15 September 2000, and the Declaration of the Second Meeting of States Parties reaffirming the commitment to implement completely and fully all provisions of the Convention,[126]

*Noting with satisfaction* that additional States have ratified or acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States that have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention to one hundred and eight,

*Emphasizing* the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to the Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization,

*Noting with regret* that anti-personnel mines continue to be used in conflicts around the world, causing human suffering and impeding post-conflict development,

1. *Invites* all States that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[124] to accede to it without delay;

2. *Urges* all States that have signed but not ratified the Convention to ratify it without delay;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of, and compliance with, the Convention;

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[123] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[124] See CD/1478.

[125] APLC/MSP.1/1999/1, part II.

[126] APLC/MSP/2/2000/1, part II.

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information, as required in article 7 of the Convention, in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more effective;

6. *Renews its call upon* all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine awareness programmes, and the removal of anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and the assurance of their destruction;

7. *Invites and encourages* all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to participate in the programme of inter-sessional work established at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention and further developed at the Second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;

8. *Welcomes* the generous offer of the Government of Nicaragua to host the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention at Managua, from 18 to 21 September 2001, and, on behalf of States parties and in accordance with article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the Meeting as observers;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction".

## Resolution W

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77)[127]

### W

### ESTABLISHMENT OF A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE IN CENTRAL ASIA

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/38 S of 9 December 1997 and 53/77 A of 4 December 1998 and its decision 54/417 of 1 December 1999,

*Recalling also* paragraphs 60, 61, 62 and 64 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[69] and the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[33] and recalling further the relevant paragraphs of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[49] and of the report of its Main Committee II[128] related to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

*Convinced* that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones is conducive to the achievement of general and complete disarmament,

*Emphasizing* the importance of internationally recognized agreements on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in various parts of the world and on the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime,

*Welcoming* the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of principles and guidelines for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned,[68]

*Believing* that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region[129] and bearing in mind the specific characteristics of the region, can enhance the security of the States involved and strengthen global and regional peace and security,

*Recalling* the Almaty Declaration of the heads of State of the Central Asian States of 28 February 1997[130] on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia, the statement issued at Tashkent on 15 September 1997 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia[131] and the Communiqué of the Consultative Meeting of Experts of the Central Asian Countries, the Nuclear-Weapon States and the

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[127] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

[128] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document.*, vol. II (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part III)), sect. 6, document NPT/CONF.2000/MC.II/1.

[129] Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

[130] A/52/112, annex.

[131] A/52/390, annex.

United Nations, held at Bishkek on 9 and 10 July 1998,[132] on the elaboration of acceptable ways and means of establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

*Reaffirming* the universally recognized role of the United Nations in the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the support of all States for the initiative to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

2. *Welcomes* the desire of all five States of the Central Asian region to finalize work on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia and the concrete steps that they have taken to that end to prepare the legal groundwork for the initiative and the progress that they have achieved in this regard;

3. *Calls upon* all five Central Asian States to continue their dialogue with the five nuclear-weapon States on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to continue to provide assistance to the Central Asian States in the elaboration of an agreement on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

5. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia at its fifty-sixth session under the agenda item entitled "General and complete disarmament".

## Resolution X

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77),[133] by a recorded vote of 119 to 28, with 22 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Andorra, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Albania, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

### X

### FOLLOW-UP TO THE ADVISORY OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE ON THE *LEGALITY OF THE THREAT OR USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS*

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994, 51/45 M of 10 December 1996, 52/38 O of 9 December 1997, 53/77 W of 4 December 1998 and 54/54 Q of 1 December 1999,

*Convinced* that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to all humanity and that their use would have catastrophic consequences for all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

*Reaffirming* the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

*Mindful* of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[33] particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

*Recalling* the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[40]

*Welcoming* the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament,

*Recalling* the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, and expressing its satisfaction at the increasing number of States that have signed and ratified the Treaty,

*Recognizing with satisfaction* that the Antarctic Treaty[74] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[70] Rarotonga,[71] Bangkok[72] and

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[132] A/53/183, annex.

[133] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Pelindaba[73] are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

*Noting* the efforts by the States possessing the largest inventories of nuclear weapons to reduce their stockpiles of such weapons through bilateral agreements or arrangements and unilateral decisions, and calling for the intensification of such efforts to accelerate the significant reduction of nuclear-weapon arsenals,

*Recognizing* the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons,

*Reaffirming* the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, and regretting the lack of progress in disarmament negotiations, particularly nuclear disarmament, in the Conference on Disarmament during its 2000 session,

*Emphasizing* the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

*Desiring* to achieve the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

*Recalling* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996,[35]

*Taking note* of the relevant portions of the note by the Secretary-General[134] relating to the implementation of resolution 54/54 Q,

1. *Underlines once again* the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

2. *Calls once again upon* all States immediately to fulfil that obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations in 2001 leading to an early conclusion of a convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination;

3. *Requests* all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they have taken on the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its fifty-sixth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*".

## Resolution Y

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/559, para. 77)[135]

### Y

### THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT DECISION (CD/1547) OF 11 AUGUST 1998 TO ESTABLISH, UNDER ITEM 1 OF ITS AGENDA ENTITLED "CESSATION OF THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT", AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE, ON THE BASIS OF THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COORDINATOR (CD/1299) AND THE MANDATE CONTAINED THEREIN, A NON-DISCRIMINATORY, MULTILATERAL AND INTERNATIONALLY AND EFFECTIVELY VERIFIABLE TREATY BANNING THE PRODUCTION OF FISSILE MATERIAL FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR OTHER NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICES

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/75 L of 16 December 1993 and 53/77 I of 4 December 1998,

*Convinced* that a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would be a significant contribution to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

*Recalling* the 1998 report of the Conference on Disarmament, in which, inter alia, the Conference records that, in proceeding to take a decision on this matter, that decision is without prejudice to any further decisions on the establishment of further subsidiary bodies under agenda item 1 and that intensive consultations will be pursued to seek the views of the members of the Conference on Disarmament on appropriate methods and approaches for dealing with agenda item 1, taking into consideration all proposals and views in that respect,[136]

1. *Recalls* the decision by the Conference on Disarmament[136] to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament",

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[134] A/55/131 and Add.1.

[135] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Kenya, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mali, Monaco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[136] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/53/27), para. 10.

an ad hoc committee which shall negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[42] and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

2. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on a programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty.

## RESOLUTIONS 55/34 A to H

### 55/34. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

#### Resolution A

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/560, para. 23)[137]

#### A

UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT INFORMATION PROGRAMME

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its decision taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, by which the World Disarmament Campaign was launched,[138]

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 47/53 D of 9 December 1992, in which it decided, inter alia, that the World Disarmament Campaign should be known thereafter as the "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme" and the World Disarmament Campaign Voluntary Trust Fund as the "Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme",

*Recalling* its resolutions 49/76 A of 15 December 1994, 51/46 A of 10 December 1996 and 53/78 E of 4 December 1998,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme,[139]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;[139]

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to make effective use of the limited resources available to him in disseminating as widely as possible, including by electronic means, information on arms limitation and disarmament to Governments, the media, non-governmental organizations, educational communities and research institutes, and in carrying out a seminar and conference programme;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the Programme, as a significant instrument in enabling all Member States to participate fully in the deliberations and negotiations on disarmament in the various United Nations bodies, and in assisting them in complying with treaties, as required, and in contributing to agreed mechanisms for transparency;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and its information centres in pursuit of the objectives of the Programme;

5. *Recommends* that the Programme focus its efforts:

(*a*) To inform, to educate and to generate public understanding of the importance of multilateral action and support for it, including action by the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament, in the field of arms limitation and disarmament, in a factual, balanced and objective manner, and, inter alia, to continue to publish in all official languages *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, periodic hard copy and regular electronic updates of the *Status of Multilateral Arms Regulation and Disarmament Agreements* and ad hoc publications in hard copy and electronic form;

(*b*) To continue to coordinate, produce and manage the disarmament Internet web site as a part of the United Nations web site with a view to maintaining an updated source of accessible information, and, within available resources, to produce versions of the site in as many official languages as feasible;

(*c*) To continue to intensify United Nations interaction with the public, principally non-governmental organizations and research institutes, to help further an informed debate on topical issues of arms limitation, disarmament and security;

(*d*) To continue to organize discussions on topics of interest in the field of arms limitation and disarmament with a view to broadening understanding and facilitating an exchange of views and information among Member States and civil society;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of contributions to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme to sustain a strong outreach programme, and invites all Member States to make contributions to the Fund;

7. *Commends* the Secretary-General for supporting the efforts of universities, other academic institutions and non-governmental organizations active in the education field in widening the worldwide availability of disarmament education, invites him to continue to support and cooperate with

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[137] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, South Africa and Togo.

[138] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

[139] A/55/128 and Add.1.

educational institutions and non-governmental organizations engaged in such efforts, without cost to the regular budget to the United Nations, and takes note of the proposal made by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters in July 2000 for a study on disarmament and non-proliferation education;[140]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report covering both the implementation of the activities of the Programme by the United Nations system during the two previous years and the activities of the Programme contemplated by the system for the following two years;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme".

## Resolution B

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/560, para. 23)[141]

### B

### REGIONAL CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES: ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SECURITY QUESTIONS IN CENTRAL AFRICA

*The General Assembly*,

*Bearing in mind* the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 43/78 H and 43/85 of 7 December 1988, 44/21 of 15 November 1989, 45/58 M of 4 December 1990, 46/37 B of 6 December 1991, 47/53 F of 15 December 1992, 48/76 A of 16 December 1993, 49/76 C of 15 December 1994, 50/71 B of 12 December 1995, 51/46 C of 10 December 1996, 52/39 B of 9 December 1997, 53/78 A of 4 December 1998 and 54/55 A of 1 December 1999,

*Considering* the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international security,

*Convinced* that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

*Recalling* the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

*Convinced* that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

*Bearing in mind* the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

*Recalling* the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[142] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa,[143] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[144]

*Bearing in mind* resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998 respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[145]

*Emphasizing* the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa,

*Recalling* the decision of the fourth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee in favour of establishing, under the auspices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures, which deals with the activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa in the period since the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 54/55 A;[146]

2. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further peace, stability and sustainable development in the subregion;

3. *Also reaffirms its support* for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee, held at Yaoundé from 27 to 31 July 1992;

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[140] See A/55/349, para. 24.

[141] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon.

[142] A/50/474, annex I.

[143] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

[144] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

[145] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[146] A/55/170.

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee in implementing the programme of activities for the period 1999-2000, in particular by:

(*a*) Holding the Subregional Conference on the Proliferation of and Illicit Traffic in Small Arms in Central Africa at N'Djamena from 25 to 27 October 1999;

(*b*) Holding the twelfth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at N'Djamena from 27 to 30 October 1999;

(*c*) Holding a meeting of experts of the countries of the subregion to draft the Protocol on the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa and the Mutual Assistance Pact between countries of Central Africa at Malabo from 14 to 17 February 2000;

(*d*) Holding the thirteenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at N'Djamena from 2 to 6 May 2000;

(*e*) Holding the Subregional Conference on the Question of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons in Central Africa at Bujumbura from 14 to 16 August 2000;

(*f*) Holding the fourteenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Bujumbura from 17 to 19 August 2000;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the essential support they need to carry out the full programme of activities which they adopted at their ministerial meetings;

6. *Welcomes* the creation of a mechanism for the promotion, maintenance and consolidation of peace and security in Central Africa, to be known as the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, by the summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Central African countries, held at Yaoundé on 25 February 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to give his full support to the effective realization of that important mechanism;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to make the early-warning mechanism in Central Africa operational so that it will serve, on the one hand, as an instrument for analysing and monitoring political situations in the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with a view to preventing the outbreak of future armed conflicts and, on the other hand, as a technical body through which the member States will carry out the programme of work of the Committee, adopted at its organizational meeting held at Yaoundé in 1992, and requests the Secretary-General to provide it with the assistance necessary for it to function properly;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to lend all their support to the effective establishment and smooth functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1197 (1998), to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the necessary support for the implementation and smooth functioning of the early-warning mechanism and the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to support the establishment of a network of parliamentarians with a view to the creation of a subregional parliament in Central Africa;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to provide increased assistance to the countries of Central Africa for coping with the problems of refugees in their territories;

12. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the decision taken by the Standing Advisory Committee at its fourteenth ministerial meeting to organize a subregional conference on the protection of women and children in armed conflicts, and requests the Secretary-General to lend all the necessary support for the holding of the conference;

13. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for having established the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

14. *Appeals* to Member States and to governmental and non-governmental organizations to make additional voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the implementation of the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with assistance to ensure that they are able to carry on their efforts;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

## Resolution C

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/560, para. 23)[147]

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[147] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Liberia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Romania, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Tunisia, United States of America, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

## C

### UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT FELLOWSHIP, TRAINING AND ADVISORY SERVICES

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme,[148]

*Recalling* its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[149] the first special session devoted to disarmament, to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly,[150] the second special session devoted to disarmament, in which it decided, inter alia, to continue the programme,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the programme has already trained an appreciable number of public officials selected from geographical regions represented in the United Nations system, most of whom are now in positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament affairs in their respective countries or Governments,

*Recalling* all the annual resolutions on the matter since the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, in 1982, including resolution 50/71 A of 12 December 1995,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the programme as designed continues to enable an increasing number of public officials, in particular from the developing countries, to acquire more expertise in the sphere of disarmament,

*Believing* that the forms of assistance available to Member States, in particular to developing countries, under the programme will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

1. *Reaffirms* its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly[150] and the report of the Secretary-General[151] approved by the Assembly in its resolution 33/71 E of 14 December 1978;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of Germany and Japan for inviting the 1999 and 2000 fellows to study selected activities in the field of disarmament, and to the Government of the United States of America for having organized in 1999 a specific study programme in the field of disarmament thereby contributing to the fulfilment of the overall objectives of the programme;

3. *Expresses its appreciation also* to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the Monterey Institute of International Studies for having organized specific study programmes in the field of disarmament in their respective areas of competence, thereby contributing to the objectives of the programme;

4. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to implement annually the Geneva-based programme within existing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services".

## Resolution D

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/560, para. 23)[152]

## D

### UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN AFRICA

*The General Assembly*,

*Mindful* of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

*Recalling* its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 51/46 E of 10 December 1996, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 C of 4 December 1998 and 54/55 B of 1 December 1999,

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[148] A/55/152 and Corr.1.

[149] Resolution S-10/2.

[150] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9–13, document A/S-12/32.

[151] A/33/305.

[152] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Lesotho (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

*Aware* of the widespread support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre and the important role that the Centre can play in the present context in promoting confidence-building and arms-limitation measures at the regional level, thereby promoting progress in the area of sustainable development,

*Taking into account* the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[145]

*Bearing in mind* the efforts undertaken in the framework of the revitalization of the activities of the Regional Centre for the mobilization of the resources necessary for its operational costs,

*Taking into account* the need to establish close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of the Organization of African Unity, in conformity with the relevant decision adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,[153]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[154] and commends the activities carried out by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, in particular in support of the efforts made by the African States in the areas of peace and security;

2. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre, and emphasizes the need to provide it with resources to enable it to strengthen its activities and carry out its programmes;

3. *Appeals once again* to all States, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and the foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Regional Centre and facilitate their implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the Regional Centre for better achievements and results;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the establishment of close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Organization of African Unity, in particular in the area of peace, security and development, and to continue to assist the Director of the Regional Centre in his efforts to stabilize the financial situation of the Centre and revitalize its activities;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

## Resolution E

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/560, para. 23)[155]

### E

### UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE, DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 46/37 F of 9 December 1991, 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 52/220 of 22 December 1997 and 53/78 F of 4 December 1998,

*Recalling especially* its resolution 54/55 F of 1 December 1999, in which it welcomed the revitalization of the Regional Centre, the efforts made by the Government of Peru to that end and the appointment of the Director of the Centre by the Secretary-General,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General,[156] which concludes that the Regional Centre has launched projects aimed at furthering the understanding of the relationship between security and development, enhanced the role of the United Nations as a regional catalyst for activities on peace and disarmament and acted as a politically neutral platform for discussions on security and development issues,

*Noting* that security and disarmament issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

*Bearing in mind* the important role that the Regional Centre can play in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

*Also bearing in mind* the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

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[153] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Dec.138 (XXXV).

[154] A/55/171.

[155] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Belize (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States).

[156] A/55/169.

*Recognizing* the need to provide the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament with sufficient financial resources for the planning and implementation of their programmes of activities,

1. *Reiterates* its strong support for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability, security and development among its Member States;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the vast range of activities carried out by the Regional Centre in the last year;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Invites* all States of the region to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its agenda, making greater and better use of the Centre's potential to meet the current challenges facing the international community and with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the fields of peace, disarmament and development;

5. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular the States of the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and to foundations, to make voluntary contributions to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Regional Centre with all necessary support within existing resources, so that it may carry out its programme of activities and achieve better results;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

## Resolution F

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/560, para. 23)[157]

## F

### UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRES FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/55 E of 1 December 1999 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

*Recalling also* the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[158] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[158] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[158]

*Reaffirming* its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,[138]

*Bearing in mind* its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

*Recognizing* that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities as well as posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament and, in this regard, bearing in mind that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among the States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

*Noting* that in paragraph 146 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, the heads of State or Government welcomed the decision adopted by the General Assembly on maintaining and revitalizing the three regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,[159]

1. *Reiterates* the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace

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[157] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[158] A/55/181.

[159] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region and those that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions to strengthen their programmes of activities and implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

### Resolution G

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/560, para. 23),[160] by a recorded vote of 109 to 43, with 16 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Cyprus, Georgia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

### G

### CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

*The General Assembly*,

*Convinced* that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

*Bearing in mind* the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*,[161]

*Convinced* that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

*Conscious* that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

*Recalling* that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[149] it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

*Reaffirming* that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

*Determined* to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

*Stressing* that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

*Noting with regret* that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2000 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 54/55 D of 1 December 1999,

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[160] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritius, Namibia, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[161] *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

## Resolution H

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/560, para. 23)[162]

### H

### UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General,[158] in which he expresses his belief that the mandate of the Regional Centre remains valid and that the Centre could be a useful instrument for fostering a climate of cooperation in the post-cold-war era,

*Noting* that trends in the post-cold-war era have emphasized the function of the Regional Centre in assisting Member States as they deal with new security concerns and disarmament issues emerging in the region,

*Commending* the useful activities carried out by the Regional Centre in encouraging regional and subregional dialogue for the enhancement of openness, transparency and confidence-building, as well as the promotion of disarmament and security through the organization of regional meetings, which has come to be widely known within the Asia-Pacific region as the "Kathmandu process",

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Regional Centre for its organization of the twelfth regional disarmament meeting in Asia and the Pacific, held at Kathmandu from 15 to 17 February 2000, the United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues, held at Akita, Japan, from 22 to 25 August 2000, and the regional seminar on illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, held at Jakarta on 3 and 4 May 2000,

*Welcoming* the idea of the possible creation of an educational and training programme for peace and disarmament in Asia and the Pacific for young people with different backgrounds, to be financed from voluntary contributions,

*Noting* the important role of the Regional Centre in assisting region-specific initiatives of Member States, including its assistance in the work related to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

*Appreciating highly* the important role that Nepal has played as the host nation of the headquarters of the Regional Centre,

1. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the forthcoming operation and further strengthening of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

2. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process as a powerful vehicle for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogue;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen the programme of activities of the Centre and the implementation thereof;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking note of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, to provide the Regional Centre with the necessary support, within existing resources, in carrying out its programme of activities;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* for the generous offer of His Majesty's Government of Nepal to bear the operational cost of the Centre for it to function from Kathmandu;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expedite his ongoing consultations with other concerned Member States and interested organizations, and urges him to conclude them by 31 July 2001 to assess the possibility of enabling the Centre to operate effectively from Kathmandu as soon as possible;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

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[162] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

## RESOLUTIONS 55/35 A to C

## 55/35. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

### Resolution A

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/561, para. 13)[163]

### A

### TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR DISARMAMENT RESEARCH

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 34/83 M of 11 December 1979, in which it requested the Secretary-General to establish the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on the basis of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[164]

*Reaffirming* its resolution 39/148 H of 17 December 1984, in which it approved the statute of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, renewed the invitation to Governments to consider making voluntary contributions to the Institute and requested the Secretary-General to continue to give the Institute administrative and other support,

*Recalling* its resolution 45/62 G of 4 December 1990 adopted on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Institute,

*Considering* the continuing need for the international community to have access to independent and in-depth research on security issues and prospects for disarmament, taking note of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the disarmament programme,[165] in which the Office indicated the erosion of the value of the United Nations subvention to the Institute in real terms and recommended the development of proposals for alleviating difficulties regarding the current financial and organizational arrangements adopted in implementation of the statute of the Institute and that those proposals should be submitted to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-fifth session, and having considered the annual report of the Director of the Institute and report of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters in its capacity as the Board of Trustees of the Institute,[166] in which hope was expressed that the United Nations subvention to the Institute would be restored to its pre-1996 level and adjusted for inflation,

1. *Welcomes* the twentieth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

2. *Recognizes* the importance and high quality of the work of the Institute;

3. *Reiterates its conviction* that the Institute should continue to conduct independent research on problems relating to disarmament and security and to undertake specialized research requiring a high degree of expertise;

4. *Requests* all Member States to consider making financial contributions to the Institute in order to ensure its viability and the quality of its work over the long term;

5. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General seek ways to increase the funding of the Institute, within existing resources.

### Resolution B

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/561, para. 13)[167]

### B

### REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[168]

*Convinced* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

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[163] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[164] A/34/589.

[165] See E/AC.51/1999/2.

[166] See A/55/267.

[167] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Bulgaria.

[168] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifth-fifth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/55/27).

*Recognizing* the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching concrete agreements,

*Recalling*, in this respect, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Urges* the Conference to fulfil that role in the light of the evolving international situation, with a view to making early substantive progress on priority items on its agenda;

3. *Welcomes* the strong collective interest of the Conference in commencing substantive work as soon as possible during its 2001 session;

4. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its President to conduct jointly with the incoming President intensive consultations during the inter-sessional period in order to try to achieve this goal, as expressed in paragraph 35 of the report of the Conference;[168]

5. *Encourages* the Conference to continue the ongoing review of its membership, agenda and methods of work;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

7. *Requests* the Conference to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

### Resolution C

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/561, para. 13)[169]

### C

### REPORT OF THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Disarmament Commission,[170]

*Recalling* its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998 and 54/56 A of 1 December 1999,

*Considering* the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

*Bearing in mind* its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[170]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

3. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

4. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[171] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items of its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[172]

5. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission, at its 2000 organizational session, adopt the following items for consideration at its 2001 substantive session:

(*a*) Ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament;

(*b*) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2001 and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[168] together with all the official records of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the

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[169] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Benin, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Luxembourg, Monaco, Sierra Leone and Venezuela.

[170] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/55/42).

[171] Resolution S-10/2.

[172] A/CN.10/137.

Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

## RESOLUTION 55/36

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/562, para. 10),[173] by a recorded vote of 157 to 3, with 8 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

*Abstentions:* Australia, Canada, Ethiopia, India, Marshall Islands, Singapore, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago

### 55/36. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

*The General Assembly*,

*Bearing in mind* its relevant resolutions,

*Taking note* of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(44)/RES/28, adopted on 22 September 2000,[174]

*Cognizant* that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

*Mindful* of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

*Recalling* the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 11 May 1995,[175] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

*Recognizing with satisfaction* that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[176] the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[177] and called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,

*Recalling* the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[178] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

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[173] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, and Egypt (on behalf of some of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the League of Arab States).

[174] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fourth Regular Session, 18–22 September 2000* (GC(44)/RES/DEC(2000)).

[175] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

[176] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[177] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[178] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

*Noting* that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

*Concerned* about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

*Stressing* the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

*Emphasizing* the need for all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

*Noting* that one hundred and sixty States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[179] including a number of States in the region,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[180]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[177] and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

3. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons without further delay and not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, and to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

## RESOLUTION 55/37

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/563, para. 8)[181]

### 55/37. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/58 of 1 December 1999 and previous resolutions referring to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[182]

*Recalling with satisfaction* the adoption, on 10 October 1980, of the Convention, together with the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[182] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[182] and the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[182] which entered into force on 2 December 1983,

*Also recalling with satisfaction* the adoption by the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, on 13 October 1995 of the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV),[183] and on 3 May 1996 of the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or

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[179] See resolution 50/245.

[180] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, art. VII, para. 16.

[181] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[182] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[183] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex A.

Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II),[184]

*Recalling* that the States parties at the Review Conference declared their commitment to keeping the provisions of Protocol II under review in order to ensure that the concerns regarding the weapons it covers are addressed, and that they would encourage the efforts of the United Nations and other organizations to address all problems of landmines,

*Recalling also* the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

*Welcoming* the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as the ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to amended Protocol II and Protocol IV,

*Noting* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols,

*Noting also* that, in accordance with article 13 of amended Protocol II, a conference of States parties to that Protocol shall be held annually for the purpose of consultations and cooperation on all issues in relation to the Protocol,

*Noting further* that the provisional rules of procedure of the First Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II provide for the invitation of States not parties to the Protocol, the International Committee of the Red Cross and interested non-governmental organizations to take part in the Conference,

*Welcoming* the results of the First Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, held at Geneva from 15 to 17 December 1999,[185]

*Commending* the efforts of the Secretary-General and the President of the Conference towards the promotion of the goal of universality of amended Protocol II,

*Welcoming* the holding of an informal meeting of experts of the States parties to amended Protocol II and other interested States at Geneva on 31 May and 2 June 2000, which provided for structured discussion on several items under amended Protocol II,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[182] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II),[184] with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to this instrument at an early date, and calls upon successor States to take appropriate measures so that ultimately adherence to these instruments will be universal;

2. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention;

3. *Welcomes* the convening, from 11 to 13 December 2000, of the Second Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, in accordance with article 13 thereof, and calls upon all States parties to amended Protocol II to address at that meeting, inter alia, the issue of holding the third annual conference in 2001;

4. *Recalls* the decision of the States parties to the Convention to convene the next review conference no later than 2001, preceded by a preparatory committee, and recommends that the review conference be held at Geneva in December 2001;

5. *Welcomes* the convening of the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the Second Review Conference at Geneva on 14 December 2000, and decides to convene the second session from 2 to 6 April 2001 and the third session from 24 to 28 September 2001;

6. *Notes* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, the next review conference may consider any proposal for amendments to the Convention or the Protocols thereto as well as any proposal for additional protocols relating to other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols to the Convention;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention and the Preparatory Committee for the Second Review Conference;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

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[184] Ibid., annex B.

[185] See CCW/AP.II/CONF.1/2 (Part I).

## RESOLUTION 55/38

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/564, para. 7)[186]

### 55/38. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 54/59 of 1 December 1999,

*Reaffirming* the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

*Bearing in mind* all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

*Recognizing* the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

*Recognizing also* the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, and their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

*Recognizing further* that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[187]

*Noting* the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

*Expressing its concern* at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[188]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, and encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles, as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures, in the Mediterranean area will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the necessary conditions for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the necessary conditions for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and

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[186] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[187] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[188] A/55/254.

transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;[189]

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, international crime and illicit arms transfers, and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

## RESOLUTION 55/39

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/565, para. 7)[190]

### 55/39. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* that, in its resolution 1911 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, it expressed the hope that the States of Latin America would take appropriate measures to conclude a treaty that would prohibit nuclear weapons in Latin America,

*Recalling also* that, in the same resolution, it voiced its confidence that, once such a treaty was concluded, all States, and in particular the nuclear-weapon States, would lend it their full cooperation for the effective realization of its peaceful aims,

*Considering* that, in its resolution 2028 (XX) of 19 November 1965, it established the principle of an acceptable balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations between nuclear-weapon States and those that do not possess such weapons,

*Recalling* that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[191] was opened for signature at Mexico City on 14 February 1967,

*Noting with satisfaction* the holding on 14 February 1997 of the eleventh special session of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco,

*Recalling* that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that military denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage,

*Recalling also* that, in its resolution 2286 (XXII) of 5 December 1967, it welcomed with special satisfaction the Treaty of Tlatelolco as an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security,

*Recalling further* that in 1990, 1991 and 1992 the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean approved and opened for signature a set of amendments[192] to the Treaty of Tlatelolco,[191] with the aim of enabling the full entry into force of that instrument,

*Recalling* resolution C/E/RES.27 of the Council of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean,[193] in which the Council called for the promotion of cooperation and consultations with other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

*Noting with satisfaction* that the Treaty of Tlatelolco is now in force for thirty-two sovereign States of the region,

*Also noting with satisfaction* that on 8 November 1999 Nicaragua deposited its instrument of ratification of the amendment to the Treaty of Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in its resolution 290 (E-VII) of 26 August 1992; that on 8 August 2000 Panama deposited its instrument of accession to the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference in its resolutions 267 (E-V) of 3 July 1990, 268 (XII) of 10 May 1991 and 290 (E-VII); and that on 30 August 2000 Ecuador deposited its instrument of ratification of the amendments to the Treaty of

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[189] See resolution 46/36 L.

[190] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela.

[191] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[192] A/47/467, annex.

[193] See CD/1392.

Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference in its resolutions 268 (XII) and 290 (E-VII),

*Further noting with satisfaction* that the amended Treaty of Tlatelolco is fully in force for Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela,

1. *Welcomes* the concrete steps taken by some countries of the region during the past year for the consolidation of the regime of military denuclearization established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco);[191]

2. *Urges* the countries of the region that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in its resolutions 267 (E-V), 268 (XII) and 290 (E-VII);

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)".

## RESOLUTION 55/40

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/566, para. 8)[194]

### 55/40. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and to their destruction,

*Noting with satisfaction* that there are one hundred and forty-three States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[195] including all of the permanent members of the Security Council,

*Bearing in mind* its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the Review Conferences, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[196] and to provide such information and data in conformity with standardized procedure to the Secretary-General on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

*Recalling* the provisions of the Convention related to scientific and technological cooperation and the related provisions of the final report of the Ad Hoc Group of Governmental Experts to Identify and Examine Potential Verification Measures from a Scientific and Technical Standpoint,[197] the final report of the Special Conference of the States Parties to the Convention held from 19 to 30 September 1994,[198] and the final documents of the Review Conferences,

*Welcoming* the reaffirmation made in the Final Declaration of the Fourth Review Conference[199] that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,

*Recalling* its resolution 49/86, adopted without a vote on 15 December 1994, in which it welcomed the final report of the Special Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, adopted by consensus on 30 September 1994,[198] in which the States parties agreed to establish an ad hoc group, open to all States parties, whose objective should be to consider appropriate measures, including possible verification measures, and draft proposals to strengthen the Convention, to be included, as appropriate, in a legally binding instrument to be submitted for the consideration of the States parties,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the increase in the number of States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[195] reaffirms the call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calls upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become

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[194] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[195] Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

[196] BWC/CONF.III/23, part II.

[197] BWC/CONF.III/VEREX/9 and Corr 1.

[198] BWC/SPCONF/1.

[199] BWC/CONF.IV/9, part II.

parties thereto at an early date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention;

2. *Welcomes* the information and data provided to date, and reiterates its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[196]

3. *Welcomes also* the progress achieved so far in the negotiation of a protocol to strengthen the Convention, and reaffirms the decision of the Fourth Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention urging the conclusion of the negotiations by the Ad Hoc Group of Governmental Experts to Identify and Examine Potential Verification Measures from a Scientific and Technical Standpoint as soon as possible before the commencement of the Fifth Review Conference and urging it to submit its report, which shall be adopted by consensus, to the States parties for consideration at a Special Conference;

4. *Calls upon* all States parties, in this context, to accelerate the negotiations, and to redouble their efforts within the Ad Hoc Group to formulate an efficient, cost-effective and practical regime and to seek early resolution of the outstanding issues through renewed flexibility in order to complete the protocol in accordance with the decision of the Fourth Review Conference;

5. *Notes* that, at the request of the States parties, the Fifth Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention will be held at Geneva from 19 November to 7 December 2001, and that, after appropriate consultation, a Preparatory Committee for that Conference, open to all States parties to the Convention, was established and will meet at Geneva from 25 to 27 April 2001;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention, to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, as well as the decisions contained in the final report of the 1994 Special Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,[198] including all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Group and the Special Conference, which is to consider the report of the Ad Hoc Group, in accordance with its mandate, as confirmed by the Fourth Review Conference, and to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be required for the Fifth Review Conference and the preparations for it;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".

## RESOLUTION 55/41

Adopted at the 69th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/567, para. 7),[200] by a recorded vote of 161 to none, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* Bhutan, India, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania

### 55/41. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty was adopted by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996 and opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

*Noting* that, in its resolution 54/63 of 1 December 1999, it decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty",

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[200] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia.

*Encouraged* by the signing of the Treaty by one hundred and sixty States, including forty-one of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of sixty-five States, including thirty of the forty-four needed for its entry into force,

*Recalling* its endorsement, in resolution 54/63, of the Final Declaration of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[201] held at Vienna from 6 to 8 October 1999 to promote the entry into force of the Treaty at the earliest possible date,

1. *Stresses* the importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions and in accordance with constitutional processes, to achieve the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the States signatories to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular to its efforts to ensure that the Treaty's verification regime will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty;

3. *Urges* States to maintain their moratoria on nuclear weapons test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, pending the entry into force of the Treaty;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty to sign and ratify it as soon as possible and to refrain from acts that would defeat its object and purpose in the meanwhile;

5. *Calls upon* all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to their early successful conclusion;

6. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

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[201] A/54/514-S/1999/1102, annex.

# III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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## RESOLUTION 55/121

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/568, para. 11)[1]

### 55/121. Effects of atomic radiation

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, including resolution 54/66 of 6 December 1999, in which, inter alia, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the work of the Scientific Committee[2] and of the release of its extensive report, entitled *Sources and Effects of Ionizing Radiation: United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation 2000 Report to the General Assembly, with Scientific Annexes*,[3]

*Reaffirming* the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work,

*Concerned* about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which mankind and the environment are exposed,

*Noting* the views expressed by Member States at its fifty-fifth session with regard to the work of the Scientific Committee,

*Conscious* of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on mankind and the environment,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution it has been making in the course of the past forty-five years, since its inception, to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation, and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgement;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Scientific Committee[2] and of the release of its extensive report,[3] which provides the scientific and world community with the Committee's latest evaluations of the sources and effects of ionizing radiation on human beings and their environment;

3. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee, including its present reporting arrangements;

4. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources, and invites the Scientific Committee to submit its programme of work to the General Assembly;

5. *Endorses* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee for its future activities of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly;

6. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue at its next session the review of the important problems in the field of ionizing radiation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue providing support for the effective conduct of the work of the Scientific Committee and for the dissemination of its findings to the General Assembly, the scientific community and the public;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* for the assistance rendered to the Scientific Committee by Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and non-governmental organizations, and invites them to increase their cooperation in this field;

9. *Invites* the Scientific Committee to continue its consultations with scientists and experts from interested Member States in the process of preparing its future scientific reports;

10. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the effects of ionizing radiation in affected areas, and invites the Scientific Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

11. *Invites* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about doses, effects and risks from various sources of radiation, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Scientific Committee to the General Assembly.

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/55/46).

[3] United Nations publications, Sales Nos. E.00.IX.3 and E.00.IX.4.

## RESOLUTION 55/122

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/569, para. 12)[4]

### 55/122. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996 and 54/67 and 54/68 of 6 December 1999,

*Deeply convinced* of the common interest of mankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

*Reaffirming* the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of law, including the relevant norms of space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space,

*Seriously concerned* about the possibility of an arms race in outer space,

*Recognizing* that all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

*Considering* that space debris is an issue of concern to all nations,

*Noting* the progress achieved in the further development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, which contributes to international cooperation, and the importance of further international cooperation in this field,

*Convinced* of the importance of the recommendations contained in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development", adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), held at Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999,[5]

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III,[6]

*Convinced* that the use of space science and technology and their applications in such areas as telemedicine, tele-education and Earth observation contribute to achieving the objectives of the global conferences of the United Nations that address various aspects of economic, social and cultural development,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its forty-third session,[7]

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its forty-third session;[7]

2. *Encourages* States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space[8] to give consideration to ratifying those treaties or acceding to them;

3. *Notes* that, at its thirty-ninth session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space continued its work, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/67;[9]

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the agreement reached by the Legal Subcommittee on the question of the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit and the subsequent endorsement of that agreement by the Committee;[10]

5. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fortieth session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries:

(*a*) Consider the following as regular agenda items:

(i) General exchange of views;

(ii) Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space;

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[4] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the representative of Chile (on behalf of the Working Group on International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space).

[5] *Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 19–30 July 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.I.3), chap. I, resolution 1.

[6] A/55/153.

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/55/20).

[8] Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (resolution 2222 (XXI), annex); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (resolution 2345 (XXII), annex); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (resolution 2777 (XXVI), annex); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex); and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (resolution 34/68, annex).

[9] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/55/20), chap. II.C.

[10] Ibid., para. 129, and A/AC.105/738, annex III.

(iii) Information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law;

(iv) Matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space and the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union;

(*b*) Consider the following single issues/items for discussion:

(i) Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space;[11]

(ii) The draft convention of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law on international interests in mobile equipment and the preliminary draft protocol thereto on matters specific to space property;

(*c*) Continue its review of the concept of the "launching State", in accordance with the work plan adopted by the Committee;[12]

6. *Notes* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fortieth session, will submit its proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee at its forty-first session, in 2002;

7. *Notes also* that, in the context of paragraph 5 (*a*) (iv) above, and in accordance with the agreement referred to in paragraph 4 above, the Legal Subcommittee will reconvene its working group on the item only to consider matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space;

8. *Notes further* that, in the context of paragraph 5 (*c*) above, the Legal Subcommittee will reconvene its working group to consider the item;

9. *Takes note* of the agreement reached by the Committee at its fortieth session on the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the second term starting in 2000, in the context of the implementation of the measures relating to the working methods of those bodies,[13] which were endorsed by the General Assembly in paragraph 11 of its resolution 52/56 of 10 December 1997;

10. *Notes with satisfaction* that consensus decisions were reached on the composition of the bureaux for the second term, and agrees that, in accordance with those consensus decisions, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee should elect their chairmen for the second term at the beginning of their thirty-eighth and fortieth sessions respectively;

11. *Notes* that, in accordance with the measures relating to the working methods of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, mentioned in paragraph 9 above, consultations will be held among the regional groups at the forty-fourth session of the Committee to determine which group will be responsible for which office for the third term, starting in 2003;

12. *Notes* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its thirty-seventh session, continued its work as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/67;[14]

13. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-seventh session continued to consider, on a priority basis, the agenda item on space debris;

14. *Agrees* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee should assess the effectiveness of existing space debris mitigation practices and the extent to which they are being implemented and that efforts to model and characterize the debris environment should continue;

15. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its thirty-eighth session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries:

(*a*) Consider the following items:

(i) General exchange of views and introduction to reports submitted on national activities;

(ii) United Nations Programme on Space Applications, following the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III);

(iii) Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment;

(*b*) Consider the following items in accordance with the work plans adopted by the Committee at its forty-third session:[15]

(i) Use of nuclear power sources in outer space;

(ii) Means and mechanisms for strengthening inter-agency cooperation and increasing the use of space applications and services within and among entities of the United Nations system;

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[11] See resolution 47/68.

[12] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/54/20 and Corr.1), para. 114.

[13] Ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/52/20), annex I.

[14] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/55/20), chap. II.B.

[15] See A/AC.105/697 and Corr.1, annex III, appendix, for the work plan for item (i), and A/AC.105/736, annex II, paras. 40 and 41 for items (ii) and (iii) respectively.

(iii) Implementation of an integrated, space-based global natural disaster management system;

(*c*) Consider the following single issues/items for discussion:

(i) Space debris, on a priority basis, consistent with paragraph 370 of the report of UNISPACE III;[16]

(ii) Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and of its utilization and applications, including, inter alia, in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries;

(iii) Government and private activities to promote education in space science and engineering;

16. *Notes* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-eighth session will submit its proposal to the Committee for a draft provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Subcommittee, in 2002;

17. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that the Committee on Space Research and the International Astronautical Federation, in liaison with Member States, be invited to arrange a symposium on the theme "Terrestrial hazards from outer space objects and phenomena", with as wide a participation as possible, to be held during the first week of the thirty-eighth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee;

18. *Notes with satisfaction* that an industry symposium, with the participation of Member States, on emerging applications of global navigation satellite systems in improving the productivity of national and regional infrastructure will be organized during the thirty-eighth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee;

19. *Agrees* that, in the context of paragraphs 15 (*a*) (ii) and 16 above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-eighth session should reconvene its Working Group of the Whole and that the Subcommittee should consider, through the Working Group of the Whole, the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III;

20. *Also agrees* that, in the context of paragraph 15 (*b*) (i) above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-eighth session should reconvene its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space;

21. *Encourages* all the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to contribute to the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in the context of paragraph 15 (*b*) (ii) above by, inter alia, providing the Subcommittee with appropriate information in response to the list of questions approved by the Committee at its forty-third session;[17]

22. *Agrees* that, in the context of paragraph 15 (*c*) (i) above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-eighth session should conduct its work in accordance with the agreement of the Committee at its forty-third session;[18]

23. *Endorses* the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 2001, as proposed to the Committee by the United Nations Expert on Space Applications;[19]

24. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with paragraph 30 of General Assembly resolution 50/27 of 6 December 1995, the African regional centres for space science and technology education, in the French language and in the English language, located in Morocco and Nigeria respectively, began their first educational activities in April 2000, that the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific continued its education programme in 2000 and that progress has been achieved in furthering the goals of the Network of Space Science and Technology Education and Research Institutions for Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe and in establishing regional centres for space science and technology education in the other regions;

25. *Also notes with satisfaction* that Member States concerned in Asia and the Pacific are holding further consultations, with the assistance of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, with a view to making the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific grow into a network of nodes;

26. *Recognizes* the usefulness and significance of the space conferences of the Americas for the Latin American countries, encourages the convening of a Fourth Space Conference of the Americas, and also encourages other regions to convene periodically regional conferences with a view to achieving convergence of positions on issues of common concern in the field of the peaceful uses of outer space among States Members of the United Nations;

27. *Urges* all Governments, organs, organizations and programmes within the United Nations system as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental entities conducting space-related activities to take the action necessary for the effective implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III, in particular its resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human

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[16] *Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 19–30 July 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.I.3).

[17] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/55/20), para. 113.

[18] Ibid., para. 119.

[19] See A/AC.105/730, sect. II.

Development",[5] and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III;

28. *Notes* that, pursuant to paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 54/68, the Office for Outer Space Affairs had submitted to the Committee for its review at its forty-third session a plan of action to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III;[20]

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to begin implementing those measures and activities that are contained in the above-mentioned plan of action and are currently within the programme of work of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, based on the recommendations of UNISPACE III, and to ensure the full implementation of the plan with the necessary resources in 2002;

30. *Agrees* that the Committee should include in the agendas of its forty-fourth to forty-seventh sessions, in 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004, an item on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III;[21]

31. *Requests* the Committee to prepare a report under the agenda item on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III for submission to the General Assembly in order for the Assembly to review and appraise, at its fifty-ninth session, in 2004, in accordance with paragraph 16 of General Assembly resolution 54/68, the implementation of the outcome of UNISPACE III and to consider further actions and initiatives;

32. *Encourages* all Member States to contribute to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications to support activities to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III, in particular the priority project proposals as recommended by the Committee at its forty-third session;[22]

33. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in connection with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 54/68, special events of the United Nations were held at Headquarters and at the United Nations Office at Vienna on 4 October 2000 to launch the first World Space Week and that other events were also held by interested Member States to celebrate World Space Week, and requests the Secretary-General to invite Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations as well as space-related industries to make voluntary contributions to support activities to celebrate World Space Week;

34. *Recommends* that more attention be paid to all matters relating to the protection and the preservation of the outer space environment, especially those potentially affecting the Earth's environment;

35. *Considers* that it is essential that Member States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, including those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

36. *Urges* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

37. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to the orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including mitigation of the consequences of disasters, in particular in the developing countries;

38. *Agrees* that the benefits of space technology and its applications should be prominently brought to the attention of conferences organized within the United Nations system to address global issues relating to social, economic and cultural development and that the use of space technology should be promoted towards achieving the objectives of those conferences and implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[23]

39. *Takes note* of the interest of certain countries, including Saudi Arabia and Slovakia, that submitted requests to become members of the Committee, as well as the requests of those countries that have been sharing seats on a rotating basis, namely, Cuba, Malaysia, Peru and the Republic of Korea, to have that practice terminated and to become full members, and requests the Committee to include in the agenda of its forty-fourth session an item on the enlargement of its membership to consider including as full members those countries requesting membership;

40. *Encourages* Member States to hold informal consultations on the enlargement of membership of the Committee during the thirty-eighth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and, if necessary, during the fortieth session of the Legal Subcommittee, with a view to reaching a

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[20] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/55/20), para. 71.

[21] Ibid., para. 76.

[22] Ibid., para. 87.

[23] See resolution 55/2.

consensus agreement on the matter at the forty-fourth session of the Committee;

41. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

42. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to consider, at its forty-fourth session, its agenda item entitled "Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status";

43. *Agrees* that a symposium on the theme "The human dimension in space science and technology applications" should be organized during the forty-fourth session of the Committee;

44. *Invites* the Committee to expand the scope of international cooperation relating to the social, economic, ethical and human dimension in space science and technology applications;

45. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other international organizations to continue and, where appropriate, enhance their cooperation with the Committee and to provide it with progress reports on their work relating to the peaceful uses of outer space;

46. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work, in accordance with the present resolution, to consider, as appropriate, new projects in outer space activities and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, including its views on which subjects should be studied in the future;

47. *Also requests* the Committee to consider and identify new mechanisms of international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, in accordance with the preamble to the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/123

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/570, para. 22)[24], by a recorded vote of 156 to 1, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel

*Abstentions:* Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

### 55/123. Assistance to Palestine refugees

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/69 of 6 December 1999 and all its previous resolutions on the question, including resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948,

*Taking note* of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000,[25]

*Stressing* the importance of the Middle East peace process,

*Welcoming* the signature in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993 by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the people of Palestine, of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements[26] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

*Aware* that the Multilateral Working Group on Refugees of the Middle East peace process has an important role to play in the peace process,

1. *Notes with regret* that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of its resolution 194 (III), has not yet been effected and that, therefore, the situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of concern;

2. *Also notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and requests the Commission to exert continued efforts towards the

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[24] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[25] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/55/13).

[26] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly as appropriate, but no later than 1 September 2001;

3. *Expresses its thanks* to the Commissioner-General and to all the staff of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, recognizing that the Agency is doing all it can within the limits of available resources, and also expresses its thanks to the specialized agencies and to private organizations for their valuable work in assisting refugees;

4. *Notes* the significant success of the Peace Implementation Programme of the Agency since the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements,[26] and stresses the importance that contributions to this Programme not be at the expense of the General Fund;

5. *Welcomes* the increased cooperation between the Agency and international and regional organizations, States and relevant agencies and non-governmental organizations, which is essential to enhancing the contributions of the Agency towards improved conditions for the refugees and thereby the social stability of the occupied territory;

6. *Urges* all Member States to extend and expedite aid and assistance with a view to the economic and social development of the Palestinian people and the occupied territory;

7. *Reiterates its deep concern* regarding the persisting critical financial situation of the Agency, as outlined in the report of the Commissioner-General;[25]

8. *Commends* the efforts of the Commissioner-General to move towards budgetary transparency and internal efficiency, and welcomes in this respect the new, unified budget structure for the biennium 2000-2001, which can contribute significantly to improved budgetary transparency of the Agency;

9. *Welcomes* the consultative process between the Agency, host Governments, the Palestinian Authority and donors on management reforms;

10. *Notes with profound concern* that the continuing shortfall in the finances of the Agency has a significant negative influence on the living conditions of the Palestine refugees most in need and that it therefore has possible consequences for the peace process;

11. *Calls upon* all donors, as a matter of urgency, to make the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs of the Agency, including the remaining costs of moving the headquarters to Gaza, encourages contributing Governments to contribute regularly and to consider increasing their regular contributions, and urges non-contributing Governments to contribute.

## RESOLUTION 55/124

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/570, para. 22)[27]

### 55/124. Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 2656 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2728 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, 2791 (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, 54/70 of 6 December 1999 and the previous resolutions on this question,

*Recalling also* its decision 36/462 of 16 March 1982, by which it took note of the special report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[28]

*Having considered* the report of the Working Group,[29]

*Taking into account* the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000,[30]

*Deeply concerned* about the continuing financial situation of the Agency, which has affected and affects the continuation of the provision of necessary Agency services to Palestine refugees, including the emergency-related programmes,

*Emphasizing* the continuing need for extraordinary efforts in order to maintain, at least at the current minimum level, the activities of the Agency, as well as to enable the Agency to carry out essential construction,

1. *Commends* the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for its efforts to assist in ensuring the financial security of the Agency;

2. *Takes note with approval* of the report of the Working Group;[29]

3. *Requests* the Working Group to continue its efforts, in cooperation with the Secretary-General and the

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[27] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[28] A/36/866 and Corr.1; see also A/37/591.

[29] A/55/456.

[30] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/55/13).

Commissioner-General, to find a solution to the financial situation of the Agency;

4. *Welcomes* the new, unified budget structure for the biennium 2000-2001, which can contribute significantly to improved budgetary transparency of the Agency;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work.

## RESOLUTION 55/125

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/570, para. 22),[31] by a recorded vote of 156 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of)

### 55/125. Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and all subsequent related resolutions,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967 and 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 54/71 of 6 December 1999,[32]

*Taking note also* of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000,[33]

*Concerned* about the continuing human suffering resulting from the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities,

*Taking note* of the relevant provisions of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993 by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[34] with regard to the modalities for the admission of persons displaced in 1967, and concerned that the process agreed upon has not yet been effected,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of all persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities to return to their homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Expresses concern* that the mechanism agreed upon by the parties in article XII of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements[34] on the return of displaced persons has not been effected, and expresses the hope for an accelerated return of displaced persons;

3. *Endorses*, in the meanwhile, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are currently displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities;

4. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the Agency and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned for the above-mentioned purposes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly before its fifty-sixth session on the progress made with regard to the implementation of the present resolution.

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[31] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Palestine.

[32] A/55/391.

[33] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/55/13).

[34] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

## RESOLUTION 55/126

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/570, para. 22),[35] by a recorded vote of 160 to none, with 1 abstention, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* Israel

### 55/126. Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for Palestine refugees

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 212 (III) of 19 November 1948 on assistance to Palestine refugees,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 35/13 B of 3 November 1980, 36/146 H of 16 December 1981, 37/120 D of 16 December 1982, 38/83 D of 15 December 1983, 39/99 D of 14 December 1984, 40/165 D of 16 December 1985, 41/69 D of 3 December 1986, 42/69 D of 2 December 1987, 43/57 D of 6 December 1988, 44/47 D of 8 December 1989, 45/73 D of 11 December 1990, 46/46 D of 9 December 1991, 47/69 D of 14 December 1992, 48/40 D of 10 December 1993, 49/35 D of 9 December 1994, 50/28 D of 6 December 1995, 51/127 of 13 December 1996, 52/60 of 10 December 1997, 53/49 of 3 December 1998 and 54/72 of 6 December 1999,

*Cognizant* of the fact that Palestine refugees have, for the last five decades, lost their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[36]

*Having also considered* the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000,[37]

1. *Urges* all States to respond to the appeal in its resolution 32/90 F of 13 December 1977 and reiterated in subsequent relevant resolutions in a manner commensurate with the needs of Palestine refugees for higher education, including vocational training;

2. *Strongly appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to augment the special allocations for grants and scholarships to Palestine refugees, in addition to their contributions to the regular budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations that responded favourably to its resolutions on this question;

4. *Invites* the relevant specialized agencies and other organizations of the Untied Nations system to continue, within their respective spheres of competence, to extend assistance for higher education to Palestine refugee students;

5. *Appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and the United Nations University to contribute generously to the Palestinian universities in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including, in due course, the proposed University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees;

6. *Appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and other international bodies to contribute towards the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees;

7. *Requests* the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships and to award them to qualified Palestine refugee candidates;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[35] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Palestine.

[36] A/55/402.

[37] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/55/13).

## RESOLUTION 55/127

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/570, para. 22),[38] by a recorded vote of 157 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of)

### 55/127. Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 212 (III) of 19 November 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and all subsequent related resolutions,

*Recalling also* the relevant Security Council resolutions,

*Having considered* the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000,[39]

*Taking note* of the letter dated 28 September 2000 from the Chairman of the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East addressed to the Commissioner-General, contained in the report of the Commissioner-General,[40]

*Having considered* the reports of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolutions 48/40 E,[41] 48/40 H[42] and 48/40 J[43] of 10 December 1993 and 49/35 C[44] of 9 December 1994,

*Recalling* Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[45]

*Affirming* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[46] to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem,

*Aware* of the fact that Palestine refugees have, for over five decades, lost their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

*Also aware* of the continuing needs of Palestine refugees throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory and in the other fields of operation, namely, in Lebanon, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic,

*Further aware* of the valuable work done by the refugee affairs officers of the Agency in providing protection to the Palestinian people, in particular Palestine refugees,

*Gravely concerned* about the increased suffering of the Palestine refugees, including loss of life and injury, during the recent tragic events in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem,

*Deeply concerned* about the continuing critical financial situation of the Agency and its effect on the continuity of provision of necessary Agency services to the Palestine refugees, including the emergency-related programmes,

*Aware* of the work of the Peace Implementation Programme of the Agency,

*Recalling* the signing in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993 of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[47] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

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[38] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[39] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/55/13).

[40] Ibid., p. viii.

[41] A/49/440.

[42] A/49/442.

[43] A/49/443.

[44] A/50/451.

[45] Resolution 22 A (I).

[46] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[47] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

*Taking note* of the agreement reached on 24 June 1994, embodied in an exchange of letters between the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[48]

*Aware* of the establishment of a working relationship between the Advisory Commission of the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization in accordance with General Assembly decision 48/417 of 10 December 1993,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, as well as to all the staff of the Agency, for their tireless efforts and valuable work;

2. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Advisory Commission of the Agency, and requests it to continue its efforts and to keep the General Assembly informed of its activities, including the full implementation of decision 48/417;

3. *Takes note* of the functioning of the headquarters of the Agency in Gaza City on the basis of the Headquarters Agreement between the Agency and the Palestinian Authority;

4. *Acknowledges* the support of the host Governments and the Palestine Liberation Organization for the Agency in the discharge of its duties;

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to accept the de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[46] and to abide scrupulously by its provisions;

6. *Also calls upon* Israel to abide by Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[45] with regard to the safety of the personnel of the Agency and the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of the facilities of the Agency in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem;

7. *Further calls upon* Israel to particularly cease obstructing the movement of the personnel, vehicles and supplies of the Agency, which has a detrimental impact on the Agency's operations;

8. *Calls once again upon* the Government of Israel to compensate the Agency for damages to its property and facilities resulting from actions by the Israeli side;

9. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to proceed with the issuance of identification cards for Palestine refugees and their descendants in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

10. *Notes* that the new context created by the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization[47] and subsequent implementation agreements has had major consequences for the activities of the Agency, which is henceforth called upon, in close cooperation with the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, the specialized agencies and the World Bank, to continue to contribute towards the development of economic and social stability in the occupied territory;

11. *Notes also* that the functioning of the Agency remains essential in all fields of operation;

12. *Notes further* the significant success of the Peace Implementation Programme of the Agency;

13. *Expresses concern* about those remaining austerity measures due to the financial crisis, which have affected the quality and level of some of the services of the Agency;

14. *Reiterates its request* to the Commissioner-General to proceed with the modernization of the archives of the Agency;

15. *Urges* all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue and to increase their contributions to the Agency so as to ease current financial constraints and to support the Agency in maintaining the provision of the most basic and effective assistance to the Palestine refugees.

## RESOLUTION 55/128

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/570, para. 22),[49] by a recorded vote of 156 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San

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[48] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/49/13), annex I.

[49] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of)

## 55/128. Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 36/146 C of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 54/74 of 6 December 1999,[50]

*Taking note also* of the report of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine for the period from 1 September 1999 to 31 August 2000,[51]

*Recalling* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[52] and the principles of international law uphold the principle that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her property,

*Recalling in particular* its resolution 394 (V) of 14 December 1950, in which it directed the Conciliation Commission, in consultation with the parties concerned, to prescribe measures for the protection of the rights, property and interests of the Palestine Arab refugees,

*Noting* the completion of the programme of identification and evaluation of Arab property, as announced by the Conciliation Commission in its twenty-second progress report,[53] and the fact that the Land Office had a schedule of Arab owners and file of documents defining the location, area and other particulars of Arab property,

*Recalling* that, in the framework of the Middle East peace process, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel agreed, in the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,[54] to commence negotiations on permanent status issues, including the important issue of the refugees,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Palestine Arab refugees are entitled to their property and to the income derived therefrom, in conformity with the principles of justice and equity;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work done to preserve and modernize the existing records of the Commission;

4. *Calls once more upon* Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel that would assist him in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Urges* the Palestinian and Israeli sides, as agreed between them, to deal with the important issue of Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues in the framework of the final status negotiations of the Middle East peace process;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/129

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/570, para. 22),[55] by a recorded vote of 156 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar,

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[50] A/55/428.

[51] A/55/329, annex.

[52] Resolution 217 A (III).

[53] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes*, Annex No.11, document A/5700.

[54] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[55] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru

### 55/129. University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 36/146 G of 16 December 1981, 37/120 C of 16 December 1982, 38/83 K of 15 December 1983, 39/99 K of 14 December 1984, 40/165 D and K of 16 December 1985, 41/69 K of 3 December 1986, 42/69 K of 2 December 1987, 43/57 J of 6 December 1988, 44/47 J of 8 December 1989, 45/73 J of 11 December 1990, 46/46 J of 9 December 1991, 47/69 J of 14 December 1992, 48/40 I of 10 December 1993, 49/35 G of 9 December 1994, 50/28 G of 6 December 1995, 51/130 of 13 December 1996, 52/63 of 10 December 1997, 53/52 of 3 December 1998 and 54/75 of 6 December 1999,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[56]

*Having also considered* the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July1999 to 30 June 2000,[57]

1. *Emphasizes* the need for strengthening the educational system in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 5 June 1967, including Jerusalem, and specifically the need for the establishment of the proposed university;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary measures for establishing the University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds", in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/13 B of 3 November 1980, giving due consideration to the recommendations consistent with the provisions of that resolution;

3. *Calls once more upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cooperate in the implementation of the present resolution and to remove the hindrances that it has put in the way of establishing the University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds";

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/130

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/571, para. 20)[58], by a recorded vote of 91 to 2, with 61 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia

### 55/130. Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Guided also* by the principles of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[59] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[60] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[61]

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[56] A/55/425.

[57] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/55/13).

[58] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[59] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[60] Resolution 217 A (III).

[61] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including resolution 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, and relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights,

*Recalling also* relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Aware* of the lasting impact of the uprising (intifada) of the Palestinian people,

*Convinced* that occupation itself represents a gross violation of human rights,

*Gravely concerned* about the recent tragic events that have taken place since 28 September 2000, including the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, resulting in numerous deaths and injuries,

*Having considered* the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[62] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[63]

*Recalling* the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[64] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[65] and the signing of the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum on 4 September 1999,

*Expressing the hope* that, with the progress of the peace process, the Israeli occupation will be brought to an end and therefore violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people will cease,

1. *Commends* the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly and for its impartiality;

2. *Demands* that Israel cooperate with the Special Committee in implementing its mandate;

3. *Deplores* those policies and practices of Israel which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, as reflected in the reports of the Special Committee covering the reporting period;

4. *Expresses grave concern* about the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, as a result of Israeli practices and measures, and especially condemns the excessive use of force in the past few weeks which has resulted in more than one hundred and sixty Palestinian deaths and thousands of injuries;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee, pending complete termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, especially Israeli lack of compliance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[59] and to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross according to its regulations in order to ensure that the welfare and human rights of the peoples of the occupied territories are safeguarded and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter;

6. *Also requests* the Special Committee to submit regularly to the Secretary-General periodic reports on the current situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem;

7. *Further requests* the Special Committee to continue to investigate the treatment of prisoners in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To provide the Special Committee with all necessary facilities, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, so that it may investigate the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

(*b*) To continue to make available such additional staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

(*c*) To circulate regularly to Member States the periodic reports mentioned in paragraph 6 above;

(*d*) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

(*e*) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories".

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[62] A/55/373 and Add.1 and A/55/453

[63] A/55/261–265.

[64] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[65] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

## RESOLUTION 55/131

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/571, para. 20),[66] by a recorded vote of 152 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel and United States of America

*Abstentions:* Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of)

### 55/131. Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions,

*Having considered* the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,[67] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[68]

*Considering* that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Noting* the convening of the meeting of experts of the high contracting parties to the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[69] in Geneva from 27 to 29 October 1998, at the initiative of the Government of Switzerland in its capacity as the depositary of the Convention, concerning general problems of application of the Convention in general and, in particular, in occupied territories,

*Noting also* the convening for the first time, on 15 July 1999, of a Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, as recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution ES-10/6 of 9 February 1999, on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and to ensure respect thereof in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions,[70] and aware of the statement adopted by the Conference,

*Stressing* that Israel, the occupying Power, should comply strictly with its obligations under international law,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[69] is applicable to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Demands* that Israel accept the de jure applicability of the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and that it comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention, in accordance with article 1 common to the four General Conventions,[70] to exert all efforts in order to ensure respect for its provisions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

4. *Reiterates* the need for speedy implementation of the recommendations contained in its resolutions ES-10/3 of 15 July 1997, ES-10/4 of 13 November 1997, ES-10/5 of 17 March 1998, ES-10/6 of 9 February 1999 and ES-10/7 of 20 October 2000 with regard to ensuring respect by Israel, the occupying Power, for the provisions of the Convention;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[66] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[67] A/55/373 and Add.1 and A/55/453.

[68] A/55/261–265.

[69] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[70] Ibid., Nos. 970–973.

## RESOLUTION 55/132

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/571, para. 20),[71] by a recorded vote of 152 to 4, with no abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

*Abstentions:* None

### 55/132. Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session, as well as relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

*Reaffirming* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[72] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan,

*Aware* of the Middle East peace process started at Madrid and the agreements reached between the parties, in particular the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,[73] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

*Expressing grave concern* about the continuation by Israel of settlement activities, including the ongoing construction of the settlement in Jabal Abu-Ghneim, in violation of international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions and the agreements reached between the parties,

*Taking into consideration* the detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities on the Middle East peace process,

*Gravely concerned in particular* about the dangerous situation resulting from actions taken by the illegal armed Israeli settlers in the occupied territory, as illustrated by the massacre of Palestinian worshippers by an illegal Israeli settler in Al-Khalil on 25 February 1994, and during recent weeks,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[74]

1. *Reaffirms* that Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to peace and economic and social development;

2. *Calls upon* Israel to accept the de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[72] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Convention, in particular article 49;

3. *Demands* complete cessation of the construction of the settlement in Jabal Abu-Ghneim and of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

4. *Stresses* the need for full implementation of Security Council resolution 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994, in which, among other things, the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including, inter alia, confiscation of arms, with the aim of preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory;

5. *Reiterates its call* for the prevention of illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, particularly in the light of recent developments;

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[71] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[72] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[73] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[74] A/55/263.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/133

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/571, para. 20),[75] by a recorded vote of 150 to 3, with 1 abstention, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Micronesia (Federated States of)

### 55/133. Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session, and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights,

*Bearing in mind* the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, the most recent of which are resolutions 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994, 1073 (1996) of 28 September 1996 and 1322 (2000) of 7 October 2000,

*Having considered* the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[76] and the reports of the Secretary-General,[77]

*Aware* of the responsibility of the international community to promote human rights and ensure respect for international law,

*Reaffirming* the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

*Reaffirming also* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[78] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

*Stressing* the need for compliance with the Israeli-Palestinian agreements reached within the context of the Middle East peace process,

*Noting* the withdrawal of the Israeli army, which took place in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area, and the subsequent Israeli redeployments in accordance with the agreements reached between the parties, and noting that the third agreed-upon phase of redeployment has not been implemented,

*Concerned* about the continuing violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, including the use of collective punishment, closure of areas, annexation and establishment of settlements and the continuing actions by it designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem,

*Deeply concerned* by the tragic events that have occurred since 28 September 2000 and have led to numerous deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinians,

*Gravely concerned* about the severe restrictions on the movement of Palestinian persons and goods,

*Expressing support* for the understandings reached at the summit convened at Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, and urging all parties concerned to implement those understandings honestly and without delay,

*Convinced* of the positive impact of a temporary international or foreign presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory for the safety and protection of the Palestinian people,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the countries that participated in the Temporary International Presence in Hebron for their positive contribution,

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[75] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[76] A/55/373 and Add.1 and A/55/453.

[77] A/55/261-265.

[78] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

*Convinced* of the need for the full implementation of Security Council resolutions 904 (1994), 1073 (1996) and 1322 (2000),

1. *Determines* that all measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[78] and contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, are illegal and have no validity and that such measures should cease immediately;

2. *Condemns* acts of violence, especially the excessive use of force against Palestinian civilians, resulting in injury and loss of human life;

3. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all practices and actions which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people;

4. *Stresses* the need to preserve the territorial integrity of all the Occupied Palestinian Territory and to guarantee the freedom of movement of persons and goods within the Palestinian territory, including the removal of restrictions on movement into and from East Jerusalem, and the freedom of movement to and from the outside world;

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to accelerate the release of all remaining Palestinians arbitrarily detained or imprisoned, in line with agreements reached;

6. *Calls* for complete respect by Israel, the occupying Power, of all fundamental freedoms of the Palestinian people;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/134

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/571, para. 20),[79] by a recorded vote of 150 to 1, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel

*Abstentions:* Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

### 55/134. The occupied Syrian Golan

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,[80]

*Deeply concerned* that the Syrian Golan occupied since 1967 has been under continued Israeli military occupation,

*Recalling* Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

*Recalling also* its previous relevant resolutions, the last of which was resolution 54/80 of 6 December 1999,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of resolution 54/80,[81]

*Recalling* its previous relevant resolutions in which, inter alia, it called upon Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Arab territories,

*Reaffirming once more* the illegality of the decision of 14 December 1981 taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory,

*Reaffirming* that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming also* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[82] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

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[79] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[80] A/55/373 and Add.1 and A/55/453.

[81] A/55/265.

[82] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

*Bearing in mind* Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

*Welcoming* the convening at Madrid of the Peace Conference on the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 aimed at the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace, and expressing grave concern about the stalling of the peace process on all tracks,

1. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply with the relevant resolutions on the occupied Syrian Golan, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Council, inter alia, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect, and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind forthwith its decision;

2. *Also calls upon* Israel to desist from changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and in particular to desist from the establishment of settlements;

3. *Determines* that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken or to be taken by Israel, the occupying Power, that purport to alter the character and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan are null and void, constitute a flagrant violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[82] and have no legal effect;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to desist from imposing Israeli citizenship and Israeli identity cards on the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan and from repressive measures against the population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

5. *Deplores* the violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

6. *Calls once again upon* Member States not to recognize any of the legislative or administrative measures and actions referred to above;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/135

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/572, para. 11)[83]

## 55/135. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and all other relevant resolutions,

*Recalling in particular* its resolution 54/81 B of 25 May 2000,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization,[84] the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations[85] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the report of the Panel,[86]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations;[87]

2. *Endorses* the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee, contained in its report;

3. *Urges* Member States, the Secretariat and relevant organs of the United Nations to take all necessary steps to implement the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee;

4. *Decides* that the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate, shall continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects and shall review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in this field;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

6. *Decides* to keep open during its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects".

## RESOLUTIONS 55/136 A and B

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/573, para. 10)[88]

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[83] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Canada, Egypt, Japan, Nigeria and Poland.

[84] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/55/1).

[85] See A/55/305-S/2000/809.

[86] A/55/502.

[87] A/C.4/55/6.

[88] The draft resolutions recommended in the report were submitted by the Committee on Information.

## 55/136. Questions relating to information

### A

### INFORMATION IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY

*The General Assembly*,

*Taking note* of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,[89]

*Also taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on questions relating to information,[90]

*Urges* all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed "a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process":

(*a*) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communication infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communication policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

(*b*) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(*c*) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(*d*) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communication capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communication technology in the developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

(*e*) To aim at, in addition to bilateral cooperation, providing all possible support and assistance to the developing countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communication systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communication technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) The facilitation, as appropriate, of access by the developing countries to advanced communication technology available on the open market;

(*f*) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication[91] of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media.

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[89] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/55/21).

[90] A/55/452.

[91] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-first Session, Belgrade, 23 September to 28 October 1980*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. III.4, resolution 4/21.

## B

### UNITED NATIONS PUBLIC INFORMATION POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES

*The General Assembly*,

*Reiterating* its decision to consolidate the role of the Committee on Information as its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations to it relating to the work of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat,

*Concurring* with the view of the Secretary-General that public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations, and that a culture of communications should permeate all levels of the Organization, as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the United Nations,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, in which it established the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat;

2. *Expresses its concern* that the gap in the information and communication technologies between the developed and the developing countries has continued to widen and that most developing countries are not benefiting from the present information and technology revolution, and, in this regard, underlines the necessity of rectifying the imbalances of the global information and technology revolution in order to make it more just, equitable and effective;

3. *Welcomes* Liberia and Mozambique to membership in the Committee on Information;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in respect of the public information policies and activities of the United Nations, to continue to implement fully the recommendations contained in paragraph 2 of its resolution 48/44 B of 10 December 1993 and other mandates as established by the General Assembly;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications,[92] and encourages him to continue the reorientation exercise, while stressing the need to take into account the views of Member States, and requests him to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session;

6. *Welcomes* the initiatives that have been taken by the Department of Public Information to strengthen the public information system of the United Nations, and, in this regard, stresses the importance of a coherent and results-oriented approach being undertaken by the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the programmes and funds of the United Nations system involved in public information activities and the provision of resources for their implementation;

7. *Emphasizes* that, through its reorientation, the Department of Public Information should maintain and improve its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, including countries in transition, and that such reorientation should contribute to bridging the existing gap between the developing and the developed countries in the crucial field of public information and communications;

8. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General[93] on programme 23 (Public information) of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005, and, emphasizing that the implementation of the broad objectives outlined in the proposal should be in accordance with the objectives set forth in relevant General Assembly resolutions regarding questions relating to information, requests the Secretary-General to proceed with the submission of the proposal to the Committee for Programme and Coordination for consideration, taking into account the amendments made by the Committee on Information at its twenty-second session, in accordance with section I of Assembly resolution 53/207 of 18 December 1998;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to focus, in particular, on educational institutions as key and indispensable partners of the United Nations in its efforts fully to inform the peoples of the world of its aims and activities;

10. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to strengthen further consultative arrangements between the Department of Public Information and other substantive departments of the Secretariat, in particular those dealing with development issues;

11. *Reaffirms* that United Nations information centres should continue to publicize United Nations activities and accomplishments in the areas of economic and social development, poverty eradication, debt relief, health, education, elimination of illiteracy, women's rights, children's rights, the plight of children in armed conflict, the sexual exploitation of children, the eradication of drug trafficking and environmental issues, as well as other issues of relevance;

12. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Department of Public Information to the efforts of the Secretary-General in closing the digital divide as a means of spurring economic growth and as a response to the continuing gulf between developed and developing countries, and, in this context, requests the Department further to enhance its role;

13. *Recalls* its resolution 54/113 of 10 December 1999 concerning the proclamation of 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, and encourages the Secretary-General to strengthen the public information capacity of the

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[92] A/AC.198/2000/2.

[93] A/AC.198/2000/8.

Department of Public Information with a view to disseminating information on and drawing international attention to the dialogue among civilizations and the impact it could have on promoting mutual understanding, tolerance, peaceful coexistence and international cooperation;

14. *Welcomes* the decision taken by the Department of Public Information to launch a new web site to publicize the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement the promotional campaign to ensure that the Year enjoys the broadest international support and to report thereon and also on all follow-up activities in this respect to the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session;

15. *Recalls* its resolutions 53/202 of 17 December 1998 and 54/254 of 15 March 2000, concerning the designation of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly as the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations and the convening, as an integral part of the Millennium Assembly, of the Millennium Summit of the United Nations, takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the millennium promotional campaign,[94] and encourages him to continue to implement effective public information programmes in this regard so as to ensure that the outcome of the Summit is widely disseminated and enjoys broad international support;

16. *Appreciates and encourages* the efforts of the Department of Public Information in disseminating information to Member States regarding the promotion of women 's rights and gender equality;

17. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Secretary-General to strengthen the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information for the formation and day-to-day functioning of the information components of peacekeeping and other field operations of the United Nations, and requests the Secretariat to continue to ensure the involvement of the Department from the planning stage of such future operations through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with other substantive departments of the Secretariat;

18. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information in the field of peacekeeping operations and its role in the selection process of spokespersons for United Nations peacekeeping operations or missions, and, in this regard, encourages the Department to second spokespersons who have the necessary skills for fulfilling the tasks of the operations or missions;

19. *Emphasizes* that all publications of the Department of Public Information, in accordance with existing mandates, should fulfil an identifiable need, should not duplicate other publications of the United Nations system and should be produced in a cost-effective manner;

20. *Takes note* of the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General to make the Dag Hammarskjöld Library a virtual library with world outreach, making United Nations information and other acquired materials accessible electronically to a growing number of readers and users, and, at the same time, requests him to enrich the stock of books and journals in the Library, including publications on peace and security and development-related issues, to ensure that it continues to be a broadly accessible resource for information about the United Nations and its activities;

21. *Welcomes* the development of the United Nations News Service by the Department of Public Information, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations web site and the United Nations News Service, contain comprehensive, objective and equitable information about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

22. *Takes note* of the efforts of the Secretary-General in ensuring access for the representatives of Member States to the briefings organized at Headquarters by the Office of the Spokesman for the Secretary-General and in ensuring wider outreach of the outcome of such briefings, and requests him to consider taking further measures in this regard;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that information presented to the media is made available to delegations fully and in a timely fashion;

24. *Reaffirms* the importance attached by Member States to the role of United Nations information centres and information components in effectively and comprehensively disseminating information in all parts of the world, in particular in developing countries and countries in transition, and especially in those countries where there is need for a better understanding of United Nations activities;

25. *Also reaffirms* the importance of all United Nations information centres meeting the primary objectives outlined by the Committee on Information in its report on its ninth session;[95]

26. *Emphasizes* that resources should be commensurate with the mandated programmes and activities of the United Nations information centres to ensure their full and effective implementation, expresses deep disappointment at the reduction of more than 40 per cent in the staffing of the information

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[94] A/AC.198/2000/10.

[95] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/42/21), sect. III.D.

centres between the early and closing years of the last decade, and, in this context, acknowledges the generous contributions by several host Governments, as well as the partnership with the United Nations Development Programme and other United Nations system and local partners, to maintain the present level of operations of the information centres;

27. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations information centres[96] and requests him to continue, if feasible and on a case-by-case basis, the integration policy in a cost-effective manner, taking into account the views of the host countries to ensure that the information functions and the autonomy of United Nations information centres are not adversely affected, to meet the policy's stated objective of improving the provision of information by the United Nations, and, in this regard, requests him to continue his efforts to address the problems that affect the centres;

28. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the integration of United Nations information centres with field offices of the United Nations Development Programme,[97] requests him to implement the views and opinions of the host Governments concerned, as expressed in their replies to the questionnaire provided by the Secretariat, and also requests him to report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session on the steps taken in this regard;

29. *Further takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the guidelines for the functioning of the United Nations information centres integrated with the field offices of the United Nations Development Programme;[98]

30. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in relation to the opening of new United Nations information centres, invites the Secretary-General to make such recommendations as he may consider necessary regarding the establishment and location of such centres, and, in this regard, welcomes the requests by Croatia, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, Jamaica and Kyrgyzstan for information centres or information components;

31. *Stresses* the need to revitalize the centres that are currently not operational, for which requests have already been made by the countries concerned;

32. *Recalls* its resolution 54/82 B of 6 December 1999, in which it requested the Secretary-General to continue to study ways and means of rationalizing and effecting equitable disbursement of available resources to United Nations information centres, notes with great concern the existing imbalance in the available resources to the information centres in developing and developed countries and that, given the importance of this matter, more information is needed, and requests the Secretary-General to examine the situation thoroughly, taking into account all relevant factors, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to look into the possibility of appointing directors to those United Nations information centres that are not yet integrated and are under the temporary management of offices of the United Nations Development Programme to ensure the autonomous status of the centres;

34. *Welcomes* the action taken by some Member States with regard to providing financial and material support to United Nations information centres in their respective capitals, and invites the Secretary-General, through the Department of Public Information, to consult Member States, where appropriate, on the possibility of providing the information centres with additional voluntary support on a national basis, bearing in mind that such support should not be a substitute for the full allocation of financial requirements for the United Nations information centres in the context of the programme budget of the United Nations;

35. *Recognizes* the continuing enhanced cooperation between the Department of Public Information and the University for Peace in Costa Rica as a focal point for promoting United Nations activities and disseminating United Nations information materials, and requests the Secretary-General to report on those activities;

36. *Expresses its full support* for wide, accurate, equal and prompt coverage of United Nations activities through the continuation and improvement of United Nations press releases, which should bring out the intergovernmental aspect of the Organization's work and deliberations, stresses the importance of having these press releases issued in all official languages of the United Nations, and requests other relevant bodies of the General Assembly to give due consideration to this matter;

37. *Stresses* that radio is one of the most cost-effective and far-reaching media available to the Department of Public Information and an important instrument in United Nations activities, such as development and peacekeeping, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/44 B;

38. *Encourages* an increase in the number of programmes of United Nations Radio, in all available languages, on the United Nations web site;

39. *Takes note* of the efforts under way by the Department of Public Information to disseminate programmes directly to broadcasting stations all over the world in the six official languages, and, in that regard, stresses the need for impartiality and objectivity concerning information activities of the United Nations;

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[96] A/AC.198/2000/3–A/AC.198/2000/5.

[97] A/AC.198/2000/3.

[98] A/AC.198/2000/4.

40. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to continue to include in its radio and television programming specific programmes addressing the needs of developing nations;

41. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement fully the recommendations contained in paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 38/82 B of 15 December 1983 with regard to the introduction of full programming in French and Creole in the work programme of the Caribbean Unit of United Nations Radio;

42. *Welcomes* the progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the pilot project for the development of an international radio broadcasting capacity for the United Nations[99] and the redeployment of the necessary resources for this purpose;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session a progress report on the results of the implementation of the pilot project, and declares its intention to examine before the end of 2001 and upon submission by the Secretary-General of his report, the final report on the results of the project with a view to taking a decision on the matter during its fifty-sixth session;

44. *Urges* the Secretary-General to maintain and strengthen the managerial capacity, staff resources, programme output and means of delivery of United Nations Radio in the six official languages and, if feasible, in other languages, in order to ensure the success of the radio pilot project and, to this end, enhance coordination with the United Nations News Centre and the United Nations information centres, as well as the cooperation with national and international radio organizations in Member States;

45. *Underlines* the continuing importance of using traditional and mass media channels to disseminate information on the United Nations, and encourages the Secretary-General, through the Department of Public Information, to continue to take full advantage of recent developments in information technologies, including the Internet, in order to improve, in a cost-effective manner, the dissemination of information on the United Nations, in accordance with the priorities established by the General Assembly and taking into account the linguistic diversity of the Organization;

46. *Takes note* of the efforts by some United Nations information centres to establish their own web pages in local languages, and, in this respect, encourages the Department of Public Information to provide resources and technical facilities, in particular to United Nations information centres whose web pages are not yet operational, to develop web pages in the respective local languages in their host countries;

47. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to coordinate and rationalize the content of web pages of United Nations information centres using the same language in order to enhance the information services with a view to avoiding overlap and repetition;

48. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the multilingual development, maintenance and enrichment of United Nations web sites,[100] encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to develop and enhance the United Nations web sites in all the official languages of the Organization, and requests him to continue to develop proposals for consideration by the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session, keeping in mind the building of modular parity, which should ultimately lead to achieving full parity among the official languages of the United Nations;

49. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report, in accordance with paragraph 48 above, guidelines for content planning and publication on the United Nations web sites;

50. *Stresses* the importance of access to the United Nations treaty collection and the United Nations parliamentary documentation for the public, and commends the Secretary-General on his initiative to make parliamentary documentation of the Organization available through the United Nations web site in all the official languages;

51. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Department of Public Information for conducting the ongoing programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries in transition, and calls for its further expansion so as to include a larger number of trainees from those countries;

52. *Acknowledges* the important work carried out by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its collaboration with news agencies and broadcasting organizations in developing countries in disseminating information on priority issues;

53. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue to ensure the greatest possible access for United Nations guided tours and to ensure that displays in public areas are kept as informative, up-to-date, relevant and technologically innovative as possible;

54. *Recalls* its resolutions concerning the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, in particular resolutions 51/138 B of 13 December 1996 and 52/172 of 16 December 1997, and encourages the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of the consequences of that disaster;

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[99] A/AC.198/2000/6.

[100] A/AC.198/2000/7–A/AC.172/2000/4.

55. *Also recalls* its resolution 53/1 H of 16 November 1998, concerning international cooperation and coordination for the human and ecological rehabilitation of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan, which has been affected by nuclear tests, and encourages the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of the problems and needs of the Semipalatinsk region;

56. *Further recalls* its resolutions 53/59 B of 3 December 1998 and 54/82 B, and urges the Department of Public Information to take the necessary measures, through the provision of relevant and objective information, towards achieving the major objectives set forth in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[101] and to publicize the activities of the open-ended working group established for that purpose;

57. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-third session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the present resolution;

58. *Requests* the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

59. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

## RESOLUTION 55/137

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/574, para. 8),[102] by a recorded vote of 153 to none, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* France, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

### 55/137. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations[103] and the action taken by the Special Committee in respect of that information,

*Having also examined* the report of the Secretary-General,[104]

*Recalling* its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

*Recalling also* its resolution 54/83 of 6 December 1999, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

*Stressing* the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

1. *Approves* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial

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[101] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[102] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[103] A/55/23 (Part II), chap. VIII. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

[104] A/55/77 and Add.1.

Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations;[103]

2. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

3. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to transmit or continue to transmit to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73 *e* of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/138

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/575, para. 11),[105] by a recorded vote of 151 to 2, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Croatia, France, Georgia, Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

## 55/138. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the item entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories",

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[106]

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all other relevant resolutions, including, in particular, resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991,

*Reaffirming* the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

*Reaffirming also* that any economic or other activity that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

*Reaffirming further* that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

*Aware* of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the economic stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

*Conscious* of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

*Conscious also* that foreign economic investment, when done in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories and could also make a valid contribution to the exercise of their right to self-determination,

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[105] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[106] A/55/23 (Part II), chap. V. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

*Concerned* about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

*Bearing in mind* the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories;

3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, as well as their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Affirms* the need to avoid any economic and other activities which adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Reiterates* that the damaging exploitation and plundering of the marine and other natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, is a threat to the integrity and prosperity of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded;

9. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

12. *Appeals* to the mass media, trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, including the indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/139

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/576, para. 9),[107] by a recorded vote of 109 to none, with 50 abstentions, as follows:

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[107] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

*In favour:* Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

## 55/139. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

*Having also considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the item,[108]

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[109]

*Recalling* its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/52 of 29 July 1999,

*Bearing in mind* the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

*Conscious* of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV),

*Noting* that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

*Welcoming* the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

*Also welcoming* the current participation in the capacity of observer of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social sphere, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, and in the special session of the General Assembly on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Headquarters from 30 June to 2 July 1999,

*Noting* that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Stressing* that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continued cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

*Stressing also* the importance of securing the necessary resources for funding expanded assistance programmes for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

*Reaffirming* the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Organization of African Unity, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

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[108] A/55/72 and Corr.1.

[109] A/55/23 (Part II), chap. VII. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* .

*Expressing its conviction* that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of assistance programmes to the peoples concerned,

*Mindful* of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations decisions relating to decolonization,

*Bearing in mind* the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling its relevant resolutions,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/85 of 6 December 1999 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[108]

2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions;

4. *Reaffirms also* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

7. *Urges* those specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;

8. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:

(*a*) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories;

(*c*) Ways and means to assist the Territories to fight drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;

(*d*) The illegal exploitation of the marine resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;

10. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

11. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

12. *Welcomes* the continuing initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. *Encourages* Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

14. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and

elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples on specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

15. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

17. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this question, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

18. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the necessary measures to implement it, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/140

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/577, para. 6)[110]

### 55/140. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/86 of 6 December 1999,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General on offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,[111] prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

*Conscious* of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Strongly convinced* that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[111]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the necessary facilities to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration

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[110] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, China, Cuba, Egypt, Ghana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and United Republic of Tanzania.

[111] A/55/81 and Add.1.

on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/141

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/578, para. 24)[112]

### 55/141. Question of Western Sahara

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered in depth* the question of Western Sahara,

*Reaffirming* the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/87 of 6 December 1999,

*Recalling also* the agreement in principle given on 30 August 1988 by the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro to the proposals of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in the context of their joint mission of good offices,

*Recalling further* Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990 and 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, by which the Council approved the settlement plan for Western Sahara,[113]

*Recalling* all the Security Council and General Assembly resolutions relating to the question of Western Sahara,

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara, as provided for in the settlement plan,

*Noting with satisfaction* the entry into force of the ceasefire in accordance with the proposal of the Secretary-General, and stressing the importance it attaches to the maintenance of the ceasefire as an integral part of the settlement plan,

*Noting also with satisfaction* the agreements[114] reached by the two parties during their private direct talks aimed at the implementation of the settlement plan, and stressing the importance it attaches to a full, fair and faithful implementation of the settlement plan and the agreements aimed at its implementation,

*Noting* that, despite the progress achieved, difficulties remain in the implementation of the settlement plan which must be overcome,

*Taking note* of the Security Council resolutions relating to the question, including resolutions 1301 (2000) of 31 May 2000 and 1309 (2000) of 25 July 2000,

*Welcoming* the acceptance by the two parties of the detailed modalities for the implementation of the Secretary-General's package of measures relating to the identification of voters and the appeals process,[115]

*Having examined* the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[116]

*Having also examined* the report of the Secretary-General,[117]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[117]

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for their outstanding efforts and the two parties for the spirit of cooperation they have shown in the support they provided for those efforts;

3. *Takes note* of the agreements[114] reached between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro for the implementation of the settlement plan[113] during their private direct talks under the auspices of James Baker III, the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General, and urges the parties to implement those agreements fully and in good faith;

4. *Urges* the two parties to continue their cooperation with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy, as well as with his Special Representative, and to refrain from undertaking anything that would undermine the implementation of the settlement plan and the agreements reached for its implementation as well as the continued efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy;

5. *Calls upon* the two parties to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General, his Personal Envoy and his Special Representative in implementing the various phases of the settlement plan and in overcoming the difficulties that remain despite the progress so far achieved;

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[112] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[113] See S/21360 and S/22464 and Corr.1.

[114] S/1997/742 and Add.1.

[115] See S/1999/483/Add.1.

[116] A/55/23 (Part II), chap. IX. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[117] A/55/303.

6. *Urges* the two parties to implement faithfully and loyally the Secretary-General's package of measures relating to the identification of voters and the appeals process;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara, as provided for in the settlement plan;

8. *Reiterates its support* for further efforts of the Secretary-General for the organization and the supervision by the United Nations, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, of a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara that is impartial and free of all constraints, in conformity with Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) and 690 (1991), by which the Council approved the settlement plan for Western Sahara;

9. *Takes note* of the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 1301 (2000) and 1309 (2000);

10. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara, bearing in mind the positive ongoing implementation of the settlement plan, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/142

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/578, para. 24)[118]

### 55/142. Question of New Caledonia

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the question of New Caledonia,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to New Caledonia,[119]

*Reaffirming* the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

*Noting* the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

*Noting also*, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of an act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

*Noting with satisfaction* the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

1. *Welcomes* the significant developments that have taken place in New Caledonia as exemplified by the signing of the Nouméa Accord of 5 May 1998 between the representatives of New Caledonia and the Government of France;[120]

2. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, in the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony;

3. *Notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and also those provisions of the Accord relating to control of immigration and protection of local employment;

4. *Also notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, such as international organizations in the Pacific region, the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization, according to their regulations;

5. *Further notes* the agreement between the signatories of the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

6. *Welcomes* the fact that the administering Power invited to New Caledonia, at the time the new institutions were established, a mission of information that comprised representatives of countries of the Pacific region;

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[118] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[119] A/55/23 (Part II), chap. IX. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

[120] A/AC.109/2114, annex.

7. *Calls upon* the administering Power to transmit information regarding the political, economic and social situation of New Caledonia to the Secretary-General;

8. *Invites* all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all New Caledonians according to the letter and the spirit of the Nouméa Accord, which is based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

9. *Welcomes* measures that have been taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon and Nouméa Accords;

10. *Also welcomes* the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon and Nouméa Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

11. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Melanesian Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous culture of New Caledonia;

12. *Notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, notably the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia, including preliminary studies relating to hydrocarbons;

13. *Acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and territorial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

14. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the accession by New Caledonia to the status of observer in the Pacific Islands Forum, continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

15. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/143

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/578, para. 24)[121]

### 55/143. Question of Tokelau

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the question of Tokelau,

*Having examined* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the question of Tokelau,[122]

*Recalling* the solemn declaration on the future status of Tokelau, delivered by the *Ulu-o-Tokelau* (the highest authority on Tokelau) on 30 July 1994, that an act of self-determination in Tokelau is now under active consideration, together with the constitution of a self-governing Tokelau, and that the present preference of Tokelau is for a status of free association with New Zealand,

*Recalling also* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 54/89 of 6 December 1999,

*Recalling further* the emphasis placed in the solemn declaration on the terms of Tokelau's intended free association relationship with New Zealand, including the expectation that the form of help that Tokelau could continue to expect from New Zealand in promoting the well-being of its people, besides its external interests, would be clearly established in the framework of that relationship,

*Noting with appreciation* the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

*Noting also with appreciation* the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the International Telecommunication Union,

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[121] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[122] A/55/23 (Part II), chap. XI. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

*Recalling* the dispatch in 1994 of a United Nations visiting mission to Tokelau,

*Noting* that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Noting also* that, as a case study pointing to successful decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

1. *Notes* that Tokelau remains firmly committed to the development of self-government and to an act of self-determination that would result in Tokelau assuming a status in accordance with the options on future status for Non-Self-Governing Territories contained in principle VI of the annex to General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960;

2. *Also notes* the desire of Tokelau to move at its own pace towards an act of self-determination;

3. *Further notes* the inauguration in 1999 of a national Government based on village elections by universal adult suffrage;

4. *Acknowledges* the participation of the *Ulu-o-Tokelau* in the Pacific regional seminar, held at Majuro, from 16 to 18 May 2000,[123] and his account of how the Modern House of Tokelau project, in both its governance and its economic development dimensions, is seen by Tokelauans as the means to achieving its act of self-determination;

5. *Welcomes* the statement of the Council of Faipule of July 2000 that, following consultations in each village and a meeting of the General Fono in June 2000, full and overwhelming support has been given to the implementation of the project;

6. *Notes* the confirmation by the Council of Faipule that in the twelve months from July 2000 there will be significant movement in implementing the project, in conjunction with New Zealand;

7. *Acknowledges* that New Zealand has committed substantial additional funding to the project in 2000–2001, and its intention to collaborate with Tokelau in ways that can produce a significant momentum;

8. *Notes* the changes being made in arrangements for the delivery of public services, within an environment in which the institution of the village is truly recognized as the foundation of the nation, and the expectation that the New Zealand State Services Commissioner may be able to withdraw from his role as employer of the Tokelau Public Service at a time to be set by mutual agreement when Tokelau has established a suitable local employment framework;

9. *Also notes* that the constitution of a self-governing Tokelau will continue to develop as a part and as a consequence of the building of the Modern House of Tokelau, and that both have national and international importance for Tokelau;

10. *Acknowledges* Tokelau's need for reassurance, given that local resources cannot adequately cover the material side of self-determination, and the ongoing responsibility of Tokelau's external partners to assist Tokelau in balancing its desire to be self-reliant to the greatest extent possible with its need for external assistance;

11. *Notes* the special challenge inherent in the situation of Tokelau, among the smallest of the small Territories, and how a Territory's exercise of its inalienable right to self-determination may be brought closer, as in the case of Tokelau, by the meeting of that challenge in innovative ways;

12. *Welcomes* the assurance of the Government of New Zealand that it will meet its obligations to the United Nations with respect to Tokelau and abide by the freely expressed wishes of the people of Tokelau with regard to their future status;

13. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue their assistance to Tokelau, as it further develops its economy and governance structures within the context of its ongoing constitutional evolution;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTIONS 55/144 A and B

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/578, para. 24)[124]

### 55/144. Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

### A

### GENERAL

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman

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[123] A/55/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex, para. 30. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

[124] The draft resolutions recommended in the report were submitted by the representative of Papua New Guinea (on behalf of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples).

Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as "the Territories",

*Having examined* the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[125]

*Recalling* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

*Recognizing* that the specific characteristics and the sentiments of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options of self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

*Recalling* its resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Expressing its concern* that even forty years after the adoption of the Declaration there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Acknowledging* the significant achievements by the international community towards the eradication of colonialism in accordance with the Declaration, and conscious of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by the year 2000 and the plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[126]

*Noting* the positive constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories about which the Special Committee has received information, while also acknowledging the need for recognition to be given to expressions of self-determination by the peoples of the Territories consistent with practice under the Charter,

*Recognizing* that in the decolonization process there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination as enunciated by the General Assembly in its resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other resolutions,

*Welcoming* the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that it continues to take seriously its obligations under the Charter to develop self-government in the dependent Territories and, in cooperation with the locally elected Governments, to ensure that their constitutional frameworks continue to meet the wishes of the people, and the emphasis that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories to decide their future status,

*Welcoming also* the stated position of the Government of the United States of America that it supports fully the principles of decolonization and takes seriously its obligations under the Charter to promote to the utmost the well-being of the inhabitants of the Territories under United States administration,

*Aware* of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the necessity of promoting economic stability and diversifying and strengthening further the economies of the respective Territories as a matter of priority,

*Conscious* of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation and, in this connection, bearing in mind Agenda 21,[127] the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation, containing the Principles, the Strategy and the Plan of Action,[128] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[129] and other relevant world conferences,

*Aware* of the usefulness both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of appointed and elected representatives of the Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

*Convinced* that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

*Convinced also* that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must not be held without the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory,

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[125] A/55/23 (Part II), chap. X. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[126] See A/46/634/Rev.1 and Corr.1, annex.

[127] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[128] A/CONF.172/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[129] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

*Recognizing* that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other resolutions of the General Assembly,

*Mindful* that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, and considering that the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers should be kept under review,

*Noting* that the Special Committee held a Pacific regional seminar at Majuro from 16 to 18 May 2000 to hear the views of the representatives of the Territories, as well as Governments and organizations in the region, in order to review the political, economic and social conditions in the Territories,

*Mindful* that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

*Mindful also* in this connection that the Special Committee regards the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters and other venues, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, as a helpful means to fulfil its mandate, while recognizing the need for reviewing the role of those seminars in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

*Mindful further* that some Territories have not had any United Nations visiting mission for a long period of time and that no such visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories,

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution to the development of some Territories by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank,

*Noting* that some territorial Governments have made efforts towards achieving the highest standards of financial supervision, but that some others have been listed by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development as having met the criteria of the Organisation defining a tax haven, and noting that some territorial Governments have expressed concern about insufficient dialogue between them and the Organisation,

*Noting also* the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Territories to self-determination, including, if they so wish, independence, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Reaffirms also* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments, to facilitate programmes of political education in the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV);

3. *Requests* the administering Powers to transmit to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter and other updated information and reports, including reports on the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories regarding their future political status as expressed in fair and free referendums and other forms of popular consultation, as well as the results of any informed and democratic processes consistent with practice under the Charter that indicate the clear and freely expressed wish of the people to change the existing status of the Territories;

4. *Stresses* the importance for the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to be apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and to enhance its understanding of their conditions;

5. *Reaffirms* that United Nations visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, and requests the administering Powers and the elected representatives of the peoples of the Territories to assist the Special Committee in this regard;

6. *Reaffirms also* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and recommends that priority continue to be given, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, to the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

7. *Requests* the administering Powers, in consultation with the peoples of the Territories, to take all necessary measures to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories under their administration against any environmental

degradation, and requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in those Territories;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Powers, in cooperation with the respective territorial Governments, to continue to take all necessary measures to counter problems related to drug trafficking, money-laundering and other offences;

9. *Notes with concern* that the plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism cannot be concluded by the year 2000;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to enter into constructive dialogue with the Special Committee before the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly to develop a framework for the implementation of the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for the period beyond 2000;

11. *Notes* the particular circumstances that prevail in the Territories concerned, and encourages the political evolution in them towards self-determination;

12. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in the twenty-first century in a world free of colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

13. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to initiate or to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territories, and calls for closer cooperation between the Special Committee and the Economic and Social Council in the furtherance of the provision of assistance to the Territories;

14. *Takes note* of statements made by the elected representatives of the Territories concerned emphasizing their willingness to cooperate with all international efforts aimed at preventing abuse of the international financial system and to promote regulatory environments with highly selective licensing procedures, robust supervisory practices and well-established anti-money-laundering regimes;

15. *Calls* for an enhanced and constructive dialogue between the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and the concerned territorial Governments with a view to bringing about the changes needed to meet the highest standards of transparency and information exchange in order to facilitate the removal of those Non-Self-Governing Territories from the list of jurisdictions classified as tax havens, and requests the administering Power to assist those Territories in resolving this matter;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the implementation of resolutions concerning decolonization adopted since the declaration of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

17. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the small Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session with recommendations on appropriate ways to assist the peoples of the Territories in exercising their right to self-determination.

## B

## INDIVIDUAL TERRITORIES

*The General Assembly*,

*Referring* to resolution A above,

### I. *American Samoa*

*Taking note* of the report by the administering Power that most American Samoan leaders express satisfaction with the island's present relationship with the United States of America,

*Taking note with interest* of the statement made and the information on the political and economic situation in American Samoa provided by the Governor of American Samoa to the Pacific regional seminar held at Nadi, Fiji, from 16 to 18 June 1998,[130]

*Noting* that the territorial Government continues to have significant financial, budgetary and internal control problems and that the Territory's deficit and financial condition are compounded by the high demand for government services from the rapidly growing population, a limited economic and tax base and recent natural disasters,

*Noting also* that the Territory, similar to isolated communities with limited funds, continues to experience a lack of adequate medical and other infrastructural facilities,

*Aware* of the efforts of the territorial Government to control and reduce expenditures while continuing its programme of expanding and diversifying the local economy,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in the economic and social development of the Territory, including measures to rebuild financial management capabilities and strengthen other functions of the territorial Government;

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[130] See A/AC.109/2121, para. 28.

3. *Welcomes* the invitation extended by the Governor of American Samoa to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to send a visiting mission to the Territory;

### II. *Anguilla*

*Conscious* of the commitment of both the Government of Anguilla and the administering Power to a new and closer policy of dialogue and partnership through the Strategic Country Programme 2000–2003,

*Aware* of the efforts of the Government of Anguilla to continue to develop the Territory as a viable and well-regulated offshore financial centre for investors by enacting modern company and trust laws, as well as partnership and insurance legislation, and computerizing the company registry system,

*Noting* the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in tackling the problems of drug trafficking and money-laundering,

*Noting also* that general elections were held on 3 March 2000, resulting in a new coalition government in the House of Assembly,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power and all States, organizations and United Nations agencies to continue to assist the Territory in its social and economic development;

3. *Welcomes* the country cooperation framework of the United Nations Development Programme for the period 1997–1999 currently being implemented following consultations with the territorial Government and key development partners in the United Nations system and the donor community;

4. *Also welcomes* the assessment by the United Nations Development Programme that the Territory has made considerable progress in the domain of sustainable human development and in its sound management and preservation of the environment, which has been incorporated into the National Tourism Plan;

5. *Further welcomes* the assessment by the Caribbean Development Bank in its 1999 report on the Territory that, despite economic contraction in the first quarter, the economy rebounded to reach 6 per cent growth during 1999;

### III. *Bermuda*

*Noting* the results of the independence referendum held on 16 August 1995, and conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties of the Territory on the future status of the Territory,

*Noting also* the functioning of the democratic process and the smooth transition of government in November 1998,

*Noting further* the comments made by the administering Power in its recently published White Paper on Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories,[131]

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to work with the Territory for its socio-economic development;

3. *Requests* the administering Power to elaborate, in consultation with the territorial Government, programmes specifically intended to alleviate the economic, social and environmental consequences of the closure of the military bases and installations of the United States of America in the Territory;

### IV. *British Virgin Islands*

*Noting* the completion of a constitutional review in the Territory and the coming into force of the amended Constitution, and noting also the results of the general elections held on 17 May 1999,

*Noting also* the results of the constitutional review of 1993–1994, which made it clear that a prerequisite to independence must be a constitutionally expressed wish by the people as a result of a referendum,

*Taking note* of the statement made in 1995 by the Chief Minister of the British Virgin Islands that the Territory was ready for constitutional and political advancement towards full internal self-government and that the administering Power should assist through the gradual transfer of power to elected territorial representatives,

*Noting* that the Territory is emerging as one of the world's leading offshore financial centres,

*Noting also* the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in countering drug trafficking and money-laundering,

*Noting further* that the Territory commemorated its annual British Virgin Islands-United States Virgin Islands Friendship Day on 27 May 2000 in official ceremonies in Tortola,

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[131] See A/AC.109/1999/1 and Corr.1, annex.

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and all financial institutions to continue to provide assistance to the Territory for socio-economic development and the development of human resources, bearing in mind the vulnerability of the Territory to external factors;

3. *Welcomes* the assessment by the Caribbean Development Bank in its 1999 report that the Territory enjoyed continued expansion of the financial services sector and tourism industries, and also welcomes the provision to the Territory of 21.1 million United States dollars in technical assistance loans by the Bank, including 19.9 million dollars to assist with the financing of the Beef Island Airport;

## V. *Cayman Islands*

*Noting* the constitutional review of 1992–1993, according to which the population of the Cayman Islands expressed the sentiment that the existing relations with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland should be maintained and that the current status of the Territory should not be altered,

*Aware* that the Territory has one of the highest per capita incomes in the region, a stable political climate and virtually no unemployment,

*Noting* the actions taken by the territorial Government to implement its localization programme to promote increased participation by the local population in the decision-making process in the Cayman Islands,

*Noting with concern* the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking, money-laundering and related activities,

*Noting* the measures taken by the authorities to deal with those problems,

*Noting also* that the Territory has emerged as one of the world's leading offshore financial centres,

*Noting further* the approval by the Cayman Islands Legislative Assembly of the Territory's Vision 2008 Development Plan, which aims to promote development that is consistent with the aims and values of Caymanian society,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to provide the territorial Government with all required expertise to enable it to achieve its socio-economic aims;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the territorial Government to continue to cooperate to counter problems related to money-laundering, smuggling of funds and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking;

4. *Requests* the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to facilitate the expansion of the current programme of securing employment for the local population, in particular at the decision-making level;

5. *Welcomes* the implementation of the country cooperation framework of the United Nations Development Programme for the Territory, which is designed to ascertain national development priorities and need for United Nations assistance;

## VI. *Guam*

*Recalling* that, in the referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

*Recalling also* its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolutions 54/90 A and B of 6 December 1999,

*Recalling further* the requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory that Guam not be removed from the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples is concerned, pending the self-determination of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

*Aware* that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act are no longer continuing and that Guam has established a process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

*Cognizant* that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam, *Noting* that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

*Conscious* that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

*Aware* of the potential for diversifying and developing the economy of Guam through commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities,

*Noting* the proposed closing and realigning of four United States Navy installations on Guam and the request for the establishment of a transition period to develop some of the closed facilities as commercial enterprises,

*Recalling* the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory, and noting the recommendation of the 1996 Pacific regional seminar for sending a visiting mission to Guam,[132]

*Noting with interest* the statements made and the information on the political and economic situation in Guam provided by the representatives of the Territory to the Pacific regional seminar, held at Majuro from 16 to 18 May 2000,[133]

1. *Requests* the administering Power to work with Guam's Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination with a view to facilitating the decolonization of Guam and to keep the Secretary-General informed of progress to that end;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the referendum of 1987 and as provided for in Guam law, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government of Guam to enter into negotiations on the matter, and requests the administering Power to inform the Secretary-General of progress to that end;

3. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the elected territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

4. *Also requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory;

5. *Further requests* the administering Power to continue to recognize and respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam, and to take all necessary measures to respond to the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

6. *Requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes specifically intended to promote the sustainable development of economic activities and enterprises, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

7. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue to support appropriate measures by the territorial Government aimed at promoting growth in commercial fishing and agricultural and other viable activities;

### VII. *Montserrat*

*Taking note with interest* of the statements made and the information on the political and economic situation in Montserrat provided by the elected representatives of the Territory to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at Castries, from 25 to 27 May 1999,[134]

*Taking note* of the statement made by the Chief Minister of Montserrat on 22 May 1998 on the occasion of the observance of the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights,[135]

*Noting* that the last visiting mission to the Territory was dispatched in 1982,

*Noting also* the functioning of a democratic process in Montserrat and that general elections were held in the Territory in November 1996,

*Taking note* of the reported statement of the Chief Minister that his preference was for independence within a political union with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and that self-reliance was more of a priority than independence,

*Noting with concern* the dire consequences of the eruptions of the Montsoufriere volcano, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the population of the Territory to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory, in particular Antigua and Barbuda and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and which continues to have a negative impact upon the economy of the island,

*Noting* the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to meet the emergency situation caused by the volcanic eruptions, including the implementation of a wide range of contingency measures for both the private and the public sectors in Montserrat,

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[132] See A/AC.109/2058, para. 33 (20).

[133] A/55/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex, para. 27. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

[134] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/54/23), annex II, para. 30.

[135] See A/AC.109/SR.1486.

*Noting also* the coordinated response measures taken by the United Nations Development Programme and the assistance of the United Nations disaster management team,

*Noting with concern* that a number of the inhabitants of the Territory continue to live in shelters because of volcanic activity,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide urgent emergency assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruptions;

3. *Welcomes* the support of the Caribbean Community in the construction of housing in the safe zone to alleviate a shortage caused by the environmental and human crisis of the eruptions of the Montsoufriere volcano, as well as the material and financial support of the international community to help alleviate the suffering caused by the crisis;

### VIII. *Pitcairn*

*Taking into account* the unique nature of Pitcairn in terms of population and area,

*Expressing its satisfaction* with the continued economic and social advancement of the Territory, as well as with the improvement of its communications with the outside world and its management plan to address conservation issues,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue its discussions with the representatives of Pitcairn on how best to support their economic security;

### IX. *St. Helena*

*Taking into account* the unique character of St. Helena, its population and its natural resources,

*Noting* that the Commission of Inquiry into the Constitution appointed at the request of the Legislative Council of St. Helena reported its recommendations in March 1999, and that the Legislative Council is currently considering the recommendations,

*Also noting* the administering Power's commitment to consider carefully suggestions for specific proposals for constitutional change from the territorial Governments, as stated in its White Paper on Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories,[131]

*Welcoming* the participation of an expert from the Legislative Council of St. Helena for the first time in the Pacific regional seminar, held at Majuro from 16 to 18 May 2000,[136]

*Aware* of the establishment by the territorial Government of the Development Agency in 1995 to encourage private sector commercial development on the island,

*Also aware* of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial authorities to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of St. Helena, in particular in the spheres of food production, continuing high unemployment and limited transport and communications, and calls for continuing negotiations to allow access to Ascension Island by civilian charter flights,

*Noting with concern* the problem of unemployment on the island, and noting the joint action of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with it,

1. *Notes* that the administering Power has taken note of various statements made by members of the Legislative Council of St. Helena about the Constitution and is prepared to discuss them further with the people of St. Helena;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant regional and international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socio-economic development challenges, including high unemployment and the problems of limited transport and communications;

### X. *Turks and Caicos Islands*

*Taking note with interest* of the statements made and the information on the political and economic situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands provided by the Cabinet Minister as well as a member of the legislature from the opposition of the Territory to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at St. John's, from 21 to 23 May 1997,[137]

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[136] A/55/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex, para. 39. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

*Noting* that the People's Democratic Movement was elected to power in the Legislative Council elections held in March 1999,

*Also noting* the efforts by the territorial Government to strengthen financial management in the public sector, including efforts to increase revenue,

*Noting with concern* the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking and related activities, as well as its problems caused by illegal immigration,

*Noting* the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in countering drug trafficking and money-laundering,

*Welcoming* the assessment by the Caribbean Development Bank in its 1999 report that the economic performance of the Territory remained strong, with an increase in gross domestic product estimated at 8.7 per cent, reflecting strong growth in the tourism and construction sectors,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Invites* the administering Power to take fully into account the wishes and interests of the Government and the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands in the governance of the Territory;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to continue to provide assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the territorial Government to continue to cooperate in countering problems related to money-laundering, smuggling of funds and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking;

5. *Welcomes* the assessment by the Caribbean Development Bank in its 1999 report that the economy continued to expand with considerable output and low inflation;

6. *Also welcomes* the first country cooperation framework approved by the United Nations Development Programme for the period 1998-2002, which should, inter alia, assist in the development of a national integrated development plan that will put into place procedures for determining the national development priorities over ten years, with the focus of attention on health, population, education, tourism and economic and social development;

7. *Takes note* of the statement made by the elected Chief Minister in May 2000 that the Territory was in the process of developing diversified resource mobilization strategies, including joint ventures with the private sector, and that external assistance would be welcomed as part of that process;

### XI. *United States Virgin Islands*

*Taking note with interest* of the statements made and the information provided by the representative of the Governor of the Territory to the Pacific regional seminar, held at Majuro from 16 to 18 May 2000,[138]

*Noting* that although 80.4 per cent of the 27.5 per cent of the electorate that voted in the referendum on the political status of the Territory held on 11 October 1993 supported the existing territorial status arrangements with the administering Power, the law required the participation of 50 per cent of the registered voters for the results to be declared legally binding and therefore the status was left undecided,

*Noting also* the continuing interest of the territorial Government in seeking associate membership in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and observer status in the Caribbean Community and the Association of Caribbean States,

*Noting further* the necessity of further diversifying the economy of the Territory,

*Noting* the efforts of the territorial Government to promote the Territory as an offshore financial services centre,

*Noting with satisfaction* the interest of the Territory in joining the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as a full participant,

*Recalling* the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

*Noting* that the Territory commemorated its annual British Virgin Islands-United States Virgin Islands Friendship Day on 27 May 2000 in official ceremonies in Tortola,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

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[137] See A/AC.109/2089, para. 29.

[138] A/55/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex, para. 31. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

3. *Further requests* the administering Power to facilitate the participation of the Territory, as appropriate, in various organizations, in particular the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Caribbean Community and the Association of Caribbean States;

4. *Expresses concern* that the Territory, which is already heavily indebted, had to borrow 21 million United States dollars from a commercial bank to carry out its year 2000 computer compliance programme, and calls for the United Nations year 2000 programme to be made available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Notes* that the general elections held in the Territory in November 1998 resulted in the orderly transfer of power;

6. *Expresses concern* that the territorial Government is facing severe fiscal problems, which has resulted in an accumulated debt of more than one billion dollars;

7. *Welcomes* the measures being taken by the newly elected territorial Government in addressing the crisis, including the adoption of a five-year operating and strategic financial plan, and calls upon the administering Power to provide every assistance required by the Territory to alleviate the fiscal crisis, including, inter alia, the provision of debt relief and loans;

8. *Notes* that the 1994 report of the United States Virgin Islands Commission on Status and Federal Relations concluded that, owing to the insufficient level of voter participation, the results of the 1993 referendum were declared legally null and void.

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## RESOLUTION 55/181

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/579/Add.1, para. 11)[1]

### 55/181. Transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/169 and 48/170 of 21 December 1993, 49/102 of 19 December 1994, 51/168 of 16 December 1996, 53/171 of 15 December 1998 and 55/2 of 8 September 2000,

*Recalling also* the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community[2] and other relevant international legal instruments,

*Recognizing* that the overall socio-economic development efforts of the landlocked States in Central Asia, seeking to enter world markets through the establishment of a multicountry transit system, are impeded by a lack of territorial access to the sea and by remoteness and isolation from world markets as well as by a lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector in their transit developing neighbours owing to their economic problems,

*Reaffirming* that transit States, in the exercise of full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked States in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests,

*Expressing its support* for the current efforts being undertaken by the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours, through relevant multilateral, bilateral and regional arrangements, to address issues regarding the development of a viable transit infrastructure in the region,

*Taking note* of the report prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,[3] and considering that the problems of transit transport facing the Central Asian region need to be seen against the backdrop of increased trade and capital flows and advancement in technology in the region,

*Recognizing* that, to be effective, a transit transport strategy for the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours should incorporate actions that address both the problems inherent in the use of existing transit routes and those associated with the early development and smooth functioning of new alternative routes, and welcoming in this context the further cooperation of landlocked States with all interested countries,

*Noting* that there have been a number of important developments at the subregional and regional levels, including the signing at Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 9 May 1998, of a transit transport framework agreement among States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, the signing on 26 March 1998 by the heads of State of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific of the Tashkent Declaration on the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia,[4] the implementation of the expanded Transport Corridor-Europe-Caucasus-Asia programme and the signing on 8 September 1998 of the Baku Declaration,[5]

*Welcoming* the presentation of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, held at Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 27 April 2000, the adoption of the concept of the Special Programme and the joint statement by the Governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

*Emphasizing once again* the importance of strengthening international support measures to address further the problems of the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to improving the efficiency of the transit transport system in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Governments concerned, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe and relevant regional and international organizations and in accordance with approved programme priorities and within existing financial resources, to continue to

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Swaziland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Ukraine.

[2] TD/B/42(1)/11-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/7, annex I.

[3] A/53/331, annex.

[4] A/53/96, annex II.

[5] A/C.2/53/4, annex.

elaborate a programme for improving the efficiency of the current transit environment in the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours;

3. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in close cooperation with the regional commissions within their respective mandates and current resources, as well as with other relevant international organizations, to provide technical assistance and advisory services to the newly independent landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours, taking into account the relevant transit transport agreements;

4. *Invites* donor countries and multilateral financial and development institutions, within their mandates, to continue to provide the newly independent and developing landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours with appropriate financial and technical assistance for the improvement of the transit environment, including construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities and improved communications;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to continue to study, within the scope of the implementation of the present resolution, possible ways of promoting more cooperative arrangements between the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours, and to encourage a more active supportive role on the part of the donor community;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in close cooperation with the regional commissions, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/182

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/579/Add.1, para. 11)[6]

### 55/182. International trade and development

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 50/95 and 50/98 of 20 December 1995, 51/167 of 16 December 1996, 52/182 of 18 December 1997, 53/170 of 15 December 1998 and 54/198 of 22 December 1999, as well as relevant international agreements concerning trade, economic growth and development,

*Taking note* of the outcome of the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000,[7] specifically the Bangkok Declaration: global dialogue and dynamic engagement[8] and the Plan of Action,[9] which provide an important framework for promoting a partnership for growth and development,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by the heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[10]

*Taking note* of the Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the South Summit of the Group of 77, held at Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000,[11]

*Emphasizing* that a favourable and conducive international economic and financial environment and a positive investment climate are necessary for the growth of the world economy, including the creation of employment with equal opportunities for women and men, in particular for the growth and development of developing countries, and emphasizing also that each country is responsible for its own economic policies for sustainable development,

*Noting* the need for multilateral trade liberalization, and noting also that a large number of developing countries have assumed the rights and obligations of the World Trade Organization without being able to reap the full benefits of, and participate fully in, the multilateral trading system, and that there is a need for progress towards liberalization and enhanced market access, including in areas and products of particular interest to developing countries,

*Noting also* the importance of assisting developing countries in building their capacity, in accordance with their national priorities, to engage effectively in international trade,

*Stressing* that full and faithful implementation of the commitments and obligations in multilateral trade agreements is important to the equitable and sustainable development and stability of the world economy,

*Strongly emphasizing* the importance of providing all members of the World Trade Organization with the opportunity to engage fully and effectively in the process of multilateral trade negotiations and in other activities within the multilateral trading system in order to facilitate the attainment of balanced results with respect to the interests of all members,

*Taking note* of the report of the Trade and Development Board on its forty-seventh session,[12] the report of the Secretary-

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[6] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[7] TD/390.

[8] Ibid., part I.

[9] Ibid., part II.

[10] See resolution 55/2.

[11] A/55/74, annexes I and II.

[12] A/55/15 (Part IV). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 15.*

General on international trade and development and on the developments in the multilateral trading system,[13] and the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours,[14]

*Noting*, in the context of international trade and development, the ongoing work of the Commonwealth Secretariat/World Bank Joint Task Force on Small States,

1. *Recognizes* the importance of the expansion of international trade as an engine of growth and development and, in this context, the need for expeditious and complete integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the international trading system, in full cognizance of the opportunities and challenges of globalization and liberalization and taking into account the circumstances of individual countries, in particular the trade interests and development needs of developing countries;

2. *Renews its commitment* to uphold and strengthen an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trade system which contributes to the economic and social advancement of all countries and peoples, including equal opportunities for women and for men, by promoting the liberalization and expansion of trade, employment and stability and by providing a framework for the conduct of international trade relations;

3. *Expresses concern* at the declining terms of trade in most primary commodities, in particular for net exporters of such commodities, as well as the lack of progress in many developing countries in diversification, and, in this regard, strongly emphasizes the need for action at both the national and the international levels, inter alia, through improved market access conditions, addressing supply-side constraints and support for capacity-building, including in areas that actively involve women;

4. *Recognizes* that the substantial improvement of market access for exports of goods and services from developing countries through, inter alia, the reduction or removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers should be assigned high priority in multilateral trade negotiations;

5. *Urges* those countries that have announced market-access initiatives in favour of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and have not yet fulfilled them to expedite the implementation of those initiatives, and calls upon other countries that have not yet done so to undertake similar initiatives;

6. *Deplores* any attempt to bypass or undermine multilaterally agreed procedures on the conduct of international trade by taking unilateral actions that are inconsistent with the multilateral trade rules and regulations, including those agreed upon in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

7. *Expresses concern* about the proliferation of anti-dumping and countervailing measures, and stresses that they should not be used as protectionist measures;

8. *Reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of development and related issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment and sustainable development;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and in line with the successful outcome of the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to take the necessary measures to strengthen the management and enhance the programme delivery capacity and performance of the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in order to enable it to implement fully and effectively the outcome of its tenth session;

10. *Reiterates* the importance of continued trade liberalization in developed and developing countries, including in sectors of export interest to developing countries, through, inter alia:

(*a*) Substantial reductions of tariffs, the rolling back of tariff peaks and the removal of tariff escalation;

(*b*) The elimination of trade-distorting policies, protectionist practices and non-tariff barriers in international trade relations;

(*c*) Ensuring that resort to anti-dumping duties, countervailing duties, phytosanitary regulations and technical standards is subject to effective multilateral surveillance so that such measures respect and are consistent with multilateral trading rules and obligations and are not used for protectionist purposes;

(*d*) The improvement and renewal, by preference-giving countries, of their Generalized System of Preferences schemes with the objective of integrating developing countries, especially the least developed countries, into the international trading system and of finding ways and means to ensure more effective utilization of those schemes;

and, in this context, reiterates its original principles, namely, non-discrimination, universality, burden-sharing and non-reciprocity;

11. *Also reiterates* that it is an ethical imperative for the international community to arrest and to reverse the marginalization of the least developed countries and to promote their expeditious integration into the world economy and that all

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[13] A/55/396.

[14] See A/55/320.

countries should work together towards further enhancement of duty- and quota-free market access for exports from the least developed countries within the context of supporting their own efforts at capacity-building; recognizes that the full implementation of the Plan of Action for the Least Developed Countries adopted at the first Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Singapore from 9 to 13 December 1996, provides for further and expeditious progress towards duty-free imports from the least developed countries; invites the relevant international organizations to provide the enhanced technical assistance required to help to strengthen the supply and institutional capacity of the least developed countries so as to help them to take the fullest possible advantage of the trading opportunities that arise from globalization and liberalization, and, in this regard, reiterates the need for a speedy implementation of the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries; takes note of the preparatory activities being undertaken for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held at Brussels in May 2001; and, in this connection, calls upon development partners, in particular industrialized countries, to make efforts towards the adoption of a policy of duty- and quota-free access for essentially all exports originating in the least developed countries;

12. *Notes* the need to better coordinate trade-related technical assistance and, in this regard, to implement the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries in order to promote coordination among the six core agencies, bearing in mind that the resources made available should be utilized in line with their respective roles;

13. *Stresses* the urgent need to facilitate the integration of the countries of Africa into the world economy, and, in this context, takes note with appreciation of the action-oriented agenda for the development of Africa contained in the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa[15] and the recommendations contained therein; calls for continued efforts to increase market access for products of export interest to African economies and support for their efforts to diversify and build supply capacity, and, in this context, requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to enhance its contribution to the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[16] taking into account the agreed conclusions of the Trade and Development Board on Africa;[17] further encourages the Secretary-General of the United Nations to establish a new subprogramme on Africa, as agreed in the Plan of Action;[9] and emphasizes the importance of increased inter-agency cooperation, which has proven its relevance through the joint integrated technical assistance programmes for selected least developed and other African countries;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the initiation by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in the areas falling within its mandate, of the preparatory process for the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the New Agenda, to be held in 2002, in particular focusing on market access, diversification and supply capacity, resource flows and external debt, foreign direct and portfolio investment and access to technology, and, in this context, also requests the Secretary-General to submit a report, based on the recommendations of the Trade and Development Board on Africa, on measures taken in this regard, with a special emphasis on African trade issues, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session under the agenda item entitled "International trade and development";

15. *Stresses* the need to give special attention, within the context of international cooperation on trade and development issues, to the implementation of the many international development commitments geared to meeting the special development needs and problems of small island developing States and of landlocked developing countries and to recognize that those developing countries that provide transit services need adequate support for the maintenance and improvement of their transit infrastructure;

16. *Reiterates* the need for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to enhance its contribution to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[18] and the review document[19] in addressing the specific concerns of small island developing States in their efforts aimed at diversification, capacity-building and benefiting from improved market access opportunities for their effective integration into the global economy;

17. *Also reiterates* the importance of the effective application by all members of the World Trade Organization of all provisions of the Final Act Embodying the Results of the

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[15] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 45* (A/55/45).

[16] Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

[17] A/54/15 (Part V), chap. I, sect. C, agreed conclusions 458 (XLVI). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 15*.

[18] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[19] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations,[20] taking into account the specific interests of developing countries, so as to maximize economic growth and development benefits for all, and the need to address implementation issues seriously, as well as to implement effectively all of the special provisions in the multilateral trade agreements and related ministerial decisions in favour of developing countries, in particular by making operational and ensuring fuller implementation of the previously agreed special and differential provisions, including the strengthening of these concepts, taking into account the changing realities of world trade and globalization, and urges Governments and concerned international organizations to apply effectively the Ministerial Decisions on Measures in Favour of Least Developed Countries and on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-importing Developing Countries;[20]

18. *Recognizes* the importance of increasing trade liberalization, in particular as regards areas and products of interest to developing countries, and that further liberalization should be sufficiently broad-based to respond to the range of interests and concerns of all members within the framework of the World Trade Organization, and, in this regard, welcomes the activities of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development aimed at assisting developing countries in developing a positive agenda for future multilateral trade negotiations, and invites the secretariat of the Conference to continue to provide analytical support and technical assistance, including capacity-building activities, to those countries for their effective participation in the negotiations;

19. *Invites* members of the international community to consider the interests of non-members of the World Trade Organization in the context of trade liberalization;

20. *Invites* the international financial institutions to ensure that, in their development cooperation activities with developing countries, the obligations of the latter with regard to their development policies, strategies and programmes in trade and trade-related areas are consistent with their commitments under the framework of rules agreed upon within the multilateral trading system;

21. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strengthening of, and the attainment of greater universality by, the international trading system and of accelerating the process directed towards accession to the World Trade Organization of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, also emphasizes the necessity for Governments that are members of the World Trade Organization and relevant international organizations to assist non-members of the World Trade Organization so as to facilitate their efforts with respect to accession in an expeditious and transparent manner, on the basis of undertaking balanced World Trade Organization rights and obligations, and further emphasizes the necessity for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization to provide technical assistance, within their mandates, that will contribute to the rapid and full integration of those countries into the multilateral trading system;

22. *Stresses* the need for improved measures to address the volatility of short-term capital flows as well as the effects of financial crises on the international trading system and the development prospects of developing countries and countries affected by such crises, emphasizing the fact that keeping all markets open and maintaining continued growth in world trade are key elements in overcoming such crises, and, in this context, rejects the use of any protectionist measures; also stresses, at a broader level, the need for greater coherence between the development objectives agreed to by the international community and the functioning of the international trading and financial system, and, in this context, calls for close cooperation between the members and observers of the organizations of the United Nations system and of the multilateral trade and financial institutions, with participation in accordance with their established rules, procedures and practices;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in scheduling and organizing mandated events on trade and trade-related issues, to promote complementarity in the work of the relevant bodies of the United Nations system and with the work of other international organizations, as appropriate, bearing in mind the mandate of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

24. *Recognizes* the importance of open regional economic integration in the creation of new opportunities for expanding trade and investment, stresses the importance of those initiatives being in conformity with the rules of the World Trade Organization, where applicable, and, bearing in mind the primacy of the multilateral trading system, affirms that regional trade agreements should be outward-oriented and supportive of the multilateral trading system, and, in this context, invites Governments and intergovernmental and multilateral institutions to continue to provide support for economic integration among developing countries and among countries with economies in transition;

25. *Requests* the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to identify and analyse the implications for development of issues relevant to investment and to identify ways and means of promoting foreign direct and portfolio investment directed to all developing countries, taking into account their interests, in particular to those most in need, as well as to those countries with economies in transition with similar needs, and bearing in mind the work undertaken by other organizations, including the regional commissions;

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[20] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

26. *Emphasizes* the fact that, in line with Agenda 21[21] and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[22] Governments should have the objective of ensuring that trade and environmental policies are mutually supportive so as to achieve sustainable development, and also emphasizes that, in so doing, their environmental policies and measures with a potential trade impact should not be used for protectionist purposes;

27. *Reaffirms* the role of competition law and policy for sound economic development, takes note of the important and useful work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in this field, and, in this regard, decides to convene in 2005 a fifth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;[23]

28. *Emphasizes* that the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization is a key element with regard to the integrity and credibility of the multilateral trading system and the full realization of the benefits anticipated from the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

29. *Strongly emphasizes* the need for technical assistance, including legal assistance, to developing countries through, inter alia, the Advisory Centre on World Trade Organization Law and other mechanisms, to enable those countries to take the fullest possible advantage of the dispute settlement mechanism of the World Trade Organization, based on multilaterally agreed rules and regulations, and, in this context, also emphasizes that it is important for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to strengthen its technical assistance to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in this area;

30. *Notes* the increasing importance and application of electronic commerce in international trade and the need to strengthen the capacities of developing countries to participate effectively in electronic commerce; urges the organizations of the United Nations system, within their mandates and in cooperation with other relevant bodies, with the participation of their secretariats and the States Members of the United Nations and observer States, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Telecommunication Union, the International Trade Centre and the regional commissions, to continue to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition; emphasizes in this regard the need for analysis of the fiscal, legal and regulatory aspects of electronic commerce, as well as its implications for the trade and development prospects of developing countries; and, in this connection, welcomes the Ministerial Declaration entitled "Development and international cooperation in the twenty-first century: the role of information technology in the context of a knowledge-based global economy" adopted by the Economic and Social Council during the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2000;[24]

31. *Stresses* the importance of assisting developing countries and interested countries with economies in transition in improving the efficiency of trade-supporting services, inter alia, through the elimination of procedural barriers and by greater use of trade facilitating mechanisms, in particular in the areas of transport, customs, banking and insurance, and business information, especially in the case of small and medium-sized enterprises, and, in this respect, invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with its mandate and in collaboration with other relevant bodies of the United Nations, including the regional commissions, to continue to assist developing countries in those areas;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution and developments in the multilateral trading system.

## RESOLUTION 55/183

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/579/Add.2, para. 6)[25]

### 55/183. Commodities

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 45/200 of 21 December 1990, 47/185 of 22 December 1992, 48/214 of 23 December 1993, 51/169 of 16 December 1996 and 53/174 of 15 December 1998, and stressing the urgent need to ensure their full implementation,

*Taking note* of the outcome of the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at

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[21] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[22] Ibid., annex I.

[23] See TD/RBP/CONF.5/15.

[24] A/55/3, chap. III, para. 17. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3*.

[25] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000,[26] and the Plan of Action adopted by the Conference,[27]

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by the heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[28]

*Taking note* of the Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the South Summit of the Group of 77, held at Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000,[29]

*Taking note with concern* of the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the declining trend of most commodity prices,[30]

*Taking note* of the report of the Trade and Development Board on its forty-seventh session, held at Geneva from 9 to 20 October 2000,[31]

*Recognizing* that many developing countries, in particular African countries and the least developed countries, are highly dependent on the commodity sector, which still remains the principal source of export revenues and the primary source of the creation of employment, income-generation and domestic savings, as well as a driving force of investment and a contributor to economic growth and social development,

*Expressing deep concern* about the negative effects of unfavourable weather conditions on the supply side of most commodity-dependent countries and any continuing effects of the 1997–1998 financial crisis on the demand for commodities, as well as the continuing depressed levels of most commodity prices, which adversely affect the economic growth of commodity-dependent countries, especially in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as commodity-dependent small island developing States,

*Concerned* about the difficulties experienced by the developing countries in financing and implementing viable diversification programmes and in attaining access to markets for their commodities,

*Emphasizing* the necessity for a domestic industrial transformation of commodity production in the developing countries, in particular African countries and the least developed countries, with a view to enhancing productivity and stabilizing and increasing their export earnings, thus promoting the sustainable economic growth of developing countries and their integration into the global economy,

1. *Emphasizes* the need for the developing countries that are heavily dependent on primary commodities to continue to promote a domestic policy and an institutional environment that encourage diversification and liberalization of the trade and export sectors and enhance competitiveness;

2. *Expresses* the urgent need for supportive international policies and measures to improve the functioning of commodity markets through efficient and transparent price formation mechanisms, including commodity exchanges, and through the use of commodity price risk management instruments;

3. *Expresses concern* at the declining terms of trade in most primary commodities, in particular for net exporters of such commodities, as well as the lack of progress in many developing countries in achieving diversification, and, in this regard, strongly emphasizes the need for actions at both the national and international levels, inter alia, to improve market access conditions, address supply-side constraints and provide support for capacity-building, including in areas that actively involve women;

4. *Urges* the developed countries to continue to support the commodity diversification and liberalization efforts of commodity-dependent developing countries, especially in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as commodity-dependent small island developing States, in a spirit of common purpose and efficiency, inter alia, by providing technical and financial assistance for the preparatory phase of their commodity diversification programmes;

5. *Urges* producers and consumers of individual commodities to intensify their efforts to reinforce mutual cooperation and assistance;

6. *Reiterates* the importance of maximizing the contribution of the commodity sector to economic growth and sustainable development, while continuing with diversification efforts in developing countries, especially in commodity-dependent countries, and, in this respect, stresses that:

(*a*) International support for the efforts of developing countries in the industrial transformation of their commodities is required to increase their export revenues and improve their competitiveness with a view to facilitating their integration into the global economy;

(*b*) In the context of the process of trade liberalization, tariff peaks should be minimized and the use of trade-distorting policies and protectionist practices and non-tariff barriers should be eliminated as they have negative effects on the ability of developing countries to diversify their exports and undertake the required restructuring of their commodity sector and have an adverse impact on liberalization measures taken by commodity-dependent developing countries and their efforts to eliminate poverty;

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[26] TD/390.

[27] Ibid., part II.

[28] See resolution 55/2.

[29] A/55/74, annexes I and II.

[30] See A/55/332.

[31] TD/B/47/11 (Vol. I and Corr.1). The report will appear in final form, together with the reports on the twenty-third to twenty-fifth executive sessions, as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 15*.

(*c*) In line with Agenda 21[32] and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[33] Governments should make it their objective to ensure that trade and environmental policies are mutually supportive so as to achieve sustainable development; in so doing, their environmental policies and measures with a potential trade impact should not be used for protectionist purposes;

(*d*) In the light of the process of multilateral trade liberalization, which has led to the diminution of differentials accorded by preferred trade regimes, there is a need to take measures, as appropriate and consistent with international obligations, to address the diminution, in particular by strengthening technical assistance, by continuing to provide financial assistance to commodity-dependent developing countries and by addressing supply-side constraints faced by such countries, in order to improve the competitiveness of their commodity sectors and to overcome difficulties encountered in their diversification programmes;

(*e*) Timely and effective financial cooperation to facilitate the management by commodity-dependent countries of excessive fluctuations in commodity export earnings should be maintained and further pursued;

(*f*) Strengthening technical cooperation in the areas of transfer of new technologies and know-how in production processes and training for technical, managerial and commercial staff in developing countries is of paramount importance for quality improvements in the commodity sector;

(*g*) Expansion of South-South trade and investment in commodities enhances complementarities and offers opportunities for intersectoral linkages within and among exporting countries;

(*h*) There is a need to promote, expand and intensify research and development, to provide infrastructure and support services and to encourage investment, including joint ventures in developing countries engaged in the commodity and commodity-processing sectors;

7. *Encourages* the Common Fund for Commodities, in cooperation with the International Trade Centre, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant bodies, to continue to expand the activities of its Second Account with the necessary and effective support for research and development and extension services in developing countries, including adaptive research on production and processing aimed at smallholders and small-sized and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries, in order to widen the scope of activities and thus ensure the effective participation of all stakeholders;

8. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within its mandate, to provide assistance to developing countries in the financing of commodity diversification and to include issues related to commodities in the provision of analytical support and technical assistance to developing countries in their preparation for effective participation in multilateral trade negotiations and in formulating a positive agenda for future trade negotiations;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on world commodity trends and prospects;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "Commodities".

## RESOLUTION 55/184

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/579/Add.3, para. 7)[34]

### 55/184. Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/164 of 16 December 1996, 52/185 of 18 December 1997, 53/175 of 15 December 1998 and 54/202 of 22 December 1999 on enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on recent developments in the debt situation of developing countries,[35]

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by the heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[36]

*Noting with concern* the continuing debt and debt-servicing problems of heavily indebted developing countries as constituting an element that adversely affects their development efforts and economic growth, and stressing the importance of alleviating once and for all, where applicable, their onerous debt and debt-service burden with the aim of attaining a sustainable level of debt and debt service,

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[32] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[33] Ibid., annex I.

[34] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[35] A/55/422.

[36] See resolution 55/2.

*Noting with great concern* the continuing high debt burden borne by most African countries and the least developed countries, as exacerbated, inter alia, by the declining trend in commodity prices, and noting that the financial crisis has aggravated the debt-service burdens of many developing countries, including low- and middle-income countries, in particular in the context of meeting their international debt and debt-servicing obligations in a timely fashion despite serious external and domestic financial constraints,

*Reaffirming* the need to consider further measures, as appropriate, for dealing with the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries in an effective, equitable and development-oriented manner, in order to help them to exit from the rescheduling process and unsustainable debt burdens, and welcoming the efforts already made in this regard,

*Welcoming and emphasizing* the importance of the efforts of debtor countries to pursue, despite the great social cost often involved, economic reforms and structural adjustment programmes that are aimed at achieving stability, raising domestic savings and investment, attaining competitiveness to take advantage of market access opportunities where available, reducing inflation, improving economic efficiency and addressing the social aspects of development, including the eradication of poverty and the development of social safety nets for the vulnerable and poorer strata of their populations, and encouraging them to continue in these efforts,

*Recognizing* that close attention should be paid to the impact of economic reforms on the poor and, in this context, that the country-owned poverty reduction strategy papers linked to the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative should contribute to poverty reduction,

*Stressing* the need for continuing global economic growth, equitable distribution of the opportunities and benefits of globalization and a continuing supportive international economic environment with regard to, inter alia, terms of trade, commodity prices, improved market access, trade practices, access to technology, exchange rates and international interest rates, and noting the continued need for resources for sustained economic growth and sustainable development of the developing countries, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and the results of recent United Nations conferences,

*Noting* that mechanisms such as debt rescheduling and debt conversions alone are not sufficient to resolve all of the problems relating to long-term debt sustainability, and, in this connection, stressing the continuing need for sound macroeconomic policies as well as the need for full, swift and effective implementation of initiatives that will further assist developing countries, in particular the poorest and most heavily indebted countries, especially in Africa, in their efforts to improve their debt situation, in view of their continued very high levels of total debt stock and debt-service burdens,

*Welcoming* the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, launched by the Group of Seven major industrialized countries at their meeting held at Cologne, Germany, from 18 to 20 June 1999, and the decisions on the enhanced initiative taken by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in October 1999 that are designed to provide deeper, broader and faster relief,

*Welcoming also* the actions taken by creditor countries within the framework of the Paris Club and by some creditor countries through the cancellation of bilateral debts, and urging all creditor countries to participate in efforts to remedy the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries,

*Welcoming further* the adoption by the Executive Boards of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank of a number of measures to speed up the implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, including greater flexibility on track record with a focus on policy implementation, as well as the emphasis that the decision point may be reached and that debt relief may be provided before the finalization of full poverty reduction strategy papers, as long as interim poverty reduction strategy papers are agreed, and noting with appreciation their approval of proposals to streamline preliminary heavily indebted poor countries documents,

*Recognizing* that the full implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative will require substantial financial resources, and, in this regard, stressing the need for fair, equitable and transparent burden-sharing among the international public creditor community and other donor countries, and also stressing the need to fund adequately the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Trust Fund and the Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility/Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Trust Fund, and, in this regard, welcoming the contributions and pledges made by donors to the trust funds,

*Noting with concern* that some highly indebted middle-income developing countries are facing serious difficulties in meeting their external debt-servicing obligations owing, inter alia, to liquidity constraints,

*Stressing* that the effective management of the debt of developing countries, including middle-income countries, is an important factor, among others, in their sustained economic growth and in the smooth functioning of the world economy,

*Stressing also* the importance of a sound enabling environment for effective debt management,

1. *Recognizes* that effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-service burdens of developing countries can contribute

substantially to the strengthening of the global economy and to the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and the results of recent global conferences;

2. *Reaffirms* the need, as expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[36] for the international community to deal comprehensively and effectively with the debt problems of low- and middle-income developing countries, through various national and international measures designed to make their debt sustainable in the long term;

3. *Calls* for the full, speedy and effective implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, and, in this regard, stresses the need for the donor community to provide the additional resources necessary to fulfil the future financial requirements of the Initiative, hence welcomes the agreement that financing for heavily indebted poor countries should be reviewed analytically and separately from International Development Association replenishment requirements but back to back with meetings for the thirteenth replenishment of the Association, and calls upon all donors to participate fully in this process;

4. *Calls upon* the heavily indebted poor countries to take, as soon as possible, the policy measures necessary to become eligible for the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and to reach the decision point;

5. *Reiterates its call* upon industrialized countries, as expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration in the context of addressing the special needs of the least developed countries, to agree to cancel all bilateral official debts of the heavily indebted poor countries in return for their making demonstrable commitments to poverty reduction;

6. *Stresses* the importance of continuing to implement the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative flexibly, noting the provision of significant interim debt relief between the decision and completion points and taking due account of the policy performance of the countries concerned in a transparent manner and with the full involvement of the debtor countries, including for the setting of the floating completion point, and in this regard stresses the importance of country-owned poverty reduction strategy papers;

7. *Also stresses* the importance of continued flexibility with regard to the eligibility criteria for the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, in particular for countries in post-conflict situations;

8. *Notes* that it is important for the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to continue their efforts to strengthen the transparency and integrity of debt sustainability analysis, and also notes the importance of cooperation with debtor countries in order to obtain relevant information;

9. *Welcomes* the framework for strengthening the link between debt relief and poverty eradication, and stresses the need for its continued flexible implementation, recognizing that, while the poverty reduction strategy papers should be in place by the decision point, on a transitional basis the decision point could be reached with agreement on an interim poverty reduction strategy paper, but that in all cases demonstrable progress in implementing a poverty reduction strategy would be required by the completion point;

10. *Emphasizes* that poverty reduction programmes as linked to the implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative must be country-driven and in accordance with the priorities and programmes of countries eligible under the Initiative, and stresses the importance of a participatory process that involves civil society in this regard;

11. *Welcomes* the decision of those countries that have cancelled bilateral official debt, and urges creditor countries that have not done so to consider the full cancellation and equivalent relief of the bilateral official debts of countries eligible under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and, as appropriate, action to address the needs of post-conflict countries, in particular those with protracted arrears, developing countries affected by serious natural disasters and poor countries with very low social and human development indicators, including the possibility of debt-relief measures, and stresses the importance of building coalitions with civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations in all countries to ensure in the shortest possible time the implementation of pronouncements of debt forgiveness;

12. *Notes* that the multilateral debt-relief funds can have a positive impact in assisting Governments in safeguarding or increasing expenditures on priority social sectors, and encourages donors and other countries in a position to do so to continue their efforts in this regard in the context of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative;

13. *Emphasizes* the need to secure adequate funding for an overall financing plan for the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, including in particular the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Trust Fund and the Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility/Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Trust Fund in the context of fair, equitable and transparent burden-sharing;

14. *Stresses* the principle that funding of any debt relief should not affect adversely the support for other development activities in favour of developing countries, including the level of funding for United Nations funds and programmes; welcomes, in this regard, the decision of the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on the Transfer of Real Resources to Developing Countries that financing of debt relief should not compromise the financing made available through concessional windows such as the International Development Association; and expresses its appreciation to those developed

countries that have reached, gone beyond or recently made commitments towards reaching the agreed target for official development assistance of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product, and at the same time calls upon other developed countries to meet the target for official development assistance as soon as possible;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* for the action taken by creditor countries of the Paris Club with regard to the debts of developing countries that are affected by natural disasters, and, in this regard, reiterates the need for relief promises to be fulfilled within the shortest possible time frame in order to free the requisite resources for national reconstruction efforts;

16. *Encourages* the international creditor community to consider appropriate measures for countries with a very high level of debt overhang, including, in particular, the poorest African countries, in order to make an appropriate and consistent contribution to the common objective of debt sustainability;

17. *Recognizes* the difficulties of highly indebted middle-income developing countries and other highly indebted middle-income countries in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations, and notes the serious situation in some of them in the context, inter alia, of significant liquidity constraints, which may require debt treatment, including, as appropriate, debt-reduction measures;

18. *Calls* for concerted national and international action to address effectively the debt problems of middle-income developing countries with a view to resolving their potential long-term debt-sustainability problems through various debt-treatment measures, including, as appropriate, existing orderly mechanisms for debt reduction, and encourages all creditors, both public and private, and debtor countries to utilize to the fullest extent possible, where appropriate, the mechanisms for debt reduction;

19. *Recognizes* the need for countries, even when experiencing a debt problem, to continue to work with creditors in order to facilitate continued access to international capital markets, and, in the event that extraordinary circumstances preclude a country from temporarily meeting its debt-servicing commitments, urges creditors and Governments to work together in a transparent and timely fashion towards an orderly and equitable resolution of the repayment problem, including consideration of temporary debt standstill arrangements in exceptional cases;

20. *Notes* the importance of an orderly, gradual and well-sequenced liberalization of capital accounts to strengthen the ability of countries to sustain its consequences so as to mitigate the adverse impact of the volatility of short-term capital flows;

21. *Stresses* that debt relief should contribute to development objectives, including poverty reduction, and in this regard urges countries to direct those resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards these objectives;

22. *Notes* that debt relief alone will not lead to poverty reduction and economic growth, and, in this regard, emphasizes the need for an enabling environment, including sound economic management as well as an efficient, transparent and accountable public service and administration, and stresses the need to mobilize financial resources from all sources, in addition to debt-relief measures and continued concessional financial assistance, in particular to the least developed countries, in order to support their efforts for achieving economic growth and sustainable development;

23. *Underlines* the absolute importance of implementing the resolve expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration to create an environment, at the national and global levels alike, that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty, inter alia, through good governance within each country as well as good governance at the international level and transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems;

24. *Stresses* the need to strengthen the institutional capacity of developing countries in debt management, calls upon the international community to support the efforts made towards this end, and, in this regard, stresses the importance of initiatives such as the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System[37] and the debt-management capacity-building programme;

25. *Notes* the importance of providing adequate resources for debt-relief measures in the light of the difficulties that many developing countries, especially those in Africa and the least developed countries, are facing with respect to mobilizing both domestic and external resources for their development, and, in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration, calls for special measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa, including debt cancellation;

26. *Stresses* the importance for developing countries to continue their efforts to promote a favourable environment for attracting foreign investment, thereby promoting economic growth and sustainable development, so as to favour their exit from debt and debt-servicing problems, and also stresses the need for the international community to promote a conducive external environment through, inter alia, improved market access, efforts aimed at the stabilization of exchange rates and

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[37] The Debt Management and Financial Analysis System is a computerized system developed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in developing appropriate administrative, institutional and legal structures for effective foreign and domestic public debt management. By June 1999, the system had been installed in the debt offices of fifty countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean.

the effective stewardship of interest rates, increased resource flows, access to international financial markets, flow of financial resources and improved access to technology for developing countries;

27. *Calls upon* the international community, including the United Nations system, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as the private sector, to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits on development organized since the beginning of the 1990s, as well as of the results of review processes, in particular those related to the question of the external debt problem of developing countries;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in that report a comprehensive and substantive analysis of the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, including, inter alia, those resulting from global financial instability.

## RESOLUTION 55/185

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/579/Add.4, para. 8)[38]

### 55/185. Strengthening the coordination of the mechanisms on the Commission for Science and Technology for Development: promoting complementarity of activities in the area of new and innovative technologies within the United Nations system

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 54/201 of 22 December 1999,

*Taking note* of the Ministerial Declaration entitled "Development and international cooperation in the twenty-first century: the role of information technology in the context of a knowledge-based global economy", adopted by the Economic and Social Council during the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2000,[39]

*Taking note also* of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/29 of 28 July 2000 on the information and communication technologies task force,

*Recognizing* the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in coordinating the activities of the United Nations system in the area of science and technology for development, noting the work being undertaken by the Commission in its work programme for Member States, especially the developing countries, and its work with some countries with economies in transition, emphasizing the importance of the activities that are to be pursued within the framework of the Commission, including a broad spectrum of new global challenges in science and technology, and encouraging support for those undertakings,

*Cognizant* of the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the secretariat responsible for the substantive servicing of the Commission,

*Taking note* of the Plan of Action adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its tenth session, held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000,[40] in which the Conference noted, inter alia, the growing technology gap between developed and developing countries, and stressed that actions were required by both developed and developing countries, among others, including the establishment of appropriate policy and legal frameworks, human resource development and the provision of technical assistance and, where possible, financial assistance and other incentives in order to narrow that gap and promote greater access, transfer and diffusion of technology to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, as well as countries with economies in transition,

*Recognizing* the need to address the obstacles faced by developing countries in accessing new technologies, while taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights and the special needs of developing countries,

*Recognizing also* the importance of establishing and strengthening partnership and networking among the public and private sectors and academic institutions of the South and the North to build and strengthen the technological capabilities and skills needed for developing countries to compete in the international markets,

*Bearing in mind* the cross-cutting nature of science and technology within the United Nations system and the need, inter alia, for effective policy guidance and better coordination,

*Noting* that the theme of the coordination segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council will be "The role of the United Nations in promoting development, particularly with respect to access to and transfer of knowledge and technology, especially information and communication technologies, inter alia, through partnerships with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector",

*Recalling* that the next biennial session of the Commission will be held in 2001,

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[38] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[39] A/55/3, chap. III, para. 17. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3.*

[40] TD/390, part II.

*Recognizing* the need for adequate resources, including the provision of new and additional resources from all sources, to be devoted to fostering science and technology for development,

*Recognizing also* the need for strengthening the role of the Commission,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on proposals for strengthening the coordination of the mechanisms on the Commission on Science and Technology for Development within the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development with the objective of promoting complementarity of activities within the United Nations system;[41]

2. *Welcomes* the recommendations regarding the establishment of a knowledge and technology for development network contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Requests* the Commission to report on its biennial session, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, in particular regarding proposals aimed at promoting complementarity of activities in the area of new and innovative technologies within the United Nations system;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to strengthen the Commission and its secretariat within the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, by providing it with the necessary resources, in order to enable it to carry out better its mandate of assisting the developing countries with their national development efforts in the field of science and technology;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, an analytical report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, containing, in particular, concrete proposals for strengthening the critical role of the Commission in coordinating the activities of the United Nations system in support of the efforts of developing countries to obtain, effectively utilize and benefit from science and technology for their development;

6. *Decides* that, as from the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, the item entitled "Science and technology for development" will normally be included in its agenda on a biennial basis.

## RESOLUTION 55/186

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/579/Add.5, para. 8)[42]

### 55/186. Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/197 of 22 December 1999, entitled "Towards a stable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries",

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by the heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[43]

*Taking note* of the high-level regional meetings on financing for development held at Jakarta from 2 to 5 August 2000, Bogotá on 9 and 10 November 2000, Addis Ababa from 15 to 22 November 2000, Beirut on 23 and 24 November 2000 and Geneva on 6 and 7 December 2000, which addressed issues of, inter alia, domestic resources mobilization, external private flows, reform of the international financial architecture, regional cooperation and collaboration, innovative sources of financing and issues relating to the external sector, including official development assistance and trade, from the regional perspective, in order to contribute to the preparatory process for the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development,

*Emphasizing* the importance of mobilizing in a coherent manner all sources available for the provision of financing for development, inter alia, domestic resources, international private capital flows, official development assistance, market access for goods and services from developing countries and external debt relief, and emphasizing also the importance of utilizing those resources in an efficient way,

*Expressing concern* that net financial flows to developing countries continued in 1999 the contraction that had begun with the onset of the financial crisis in 1997, and regretting the continued marginalization of the least developed countries from private capital flows,

*Emphasizing* the importance of long-term investment flows, in particular foreign direct investment, in complementing the development efforts of all developing countries as well as economies in transition and the need for all countries to develop stable access to private capital and for regional and international cooperation to promote the mobilization of new and additional capital for development,

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[41] A/55/96-E/2000/84.

[42] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[43] See resolution 55/2.

*Concerned* about the excessive volatility of speculative short-term capital flows and the contagion effects in financial markets in times of crisis,

*Deeply concerned* by the low levels of official development assistance,

*Stressing* the need for increased access to markets, in particular for goods and services that are of export interest to developing countries, inter alia, through multilateral trade negotiations,

*Emphasizing* the importance of finding a durable solution for those developing countries that have difficulties in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations,

*Encouraging* the efforts to enhance the stabilizing role of regional and subregional financial institutions and arrangements in supporting the management of monetary and financial issues,

*Underlining* the urgent need to continue to work on a wide range of reforms for a strengthened and more stable international financial system with a view to enabling it to deal more effectively and in a timely manner with the new challenges of development in the context of global financial integration,

*Stressing* that the process of reform for a strengthened and stable international financial architecture should be based on broad participation in a genuine multilateral approach, involving all members of the international community, to ensure that the diverse needs and interests of all countries are adequately represented,

*Reaffirming* that the United Nations, in fulfilling its role in the promotion of development, in particular of developing countries, plays an important part in the international efforts to build up the necessary international consensus for the reforms needed for a strengthened and stable international financial system, taking into account the mandate of all relevant international institutions, especially the international financial institutions,

*Noting* that the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development will provide a unique opportunity to consider, in an integrated manner, all sources of financing for development, and mindful that in the United Nations Millennium Declaration the heads of State and Government decided to make every effort to ensure its success,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Towards a stable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries",[44] the addendum thereto on regional perspectives and developments provided by the regional commissions[45] and the addendum thereto provided by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the work it has undertaken on the involvement of the private sector in the prevention and resolution of financial crises;[46]

2. *Underlines* the utmost importance of implementing the resolve expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[43] to create an environment, at the national and global levels alike, that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty, inter alia, through good governance within each country, as well as good governance at the international level and transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems;

3. *Also underlines* the utmost importance of implementing the commitment in the United Nations Millennium Declaration to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

4. *Stresses* the special importance of creating an enabling international economic environment through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions to promote equitable economic development in a world economy that benefits all people, and, in this context, invites developed countries, in particular major industrialized countries, which have significant weight in influencing world economic growth, when formulating their macroeconomic policies, to take into account their effects in terms of the external economic environment favourable to growth and development, in particular of developing countries;

5. *Also stresses* the special importance of creating an enabling domestic environment through, inter alia, the rule of law, capacity-building, including institutional capacity-building, and the implementation of appropriate economic and social policies, so that domestic and international resources may be effectively mobilized and used for development;

6. *Reiterates* the urgent need to accelerate the growth and development prospects of the least developed countries, which remain the poorest and most vulnerable of the international community, and calls upon development partners, in particular industrialized countries, to facilitate the financing of their development, inter alia, through public and private financial flows, increased official development assistance, strengthened debt relief, the adoption of a policy of duty- and quota-free access for essentially all of their exports and enhanced balance-of-payments support, and in this context welcomes the holding at Brussels in May 2001 of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

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[44] A/55/187.

[45] A/55/187/Add.1.

[46] A/55/187/Add.2.

7. *Recognizes* the stability of the international financial system as an important global public good and a necessary condition for positive financial flows for development, and, in this context, calls upon all countries, including major industrialized countries, whose policies have significant impact on most economies, to adopt and to pursue policies that promote international financial stability and facilitate financial flows for development, and requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, to provide information to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the analysis it has undertaken of international financial stability as a global public good;[47]

8. *Emphasizes*, in this regard, the need to continue national, regional and international efforts to promote international financial stability and, to this end, to improve surveillance, early warning, prevention and response capabilities for dealing with the emergence and spread of financial crises in a timely manner, taking a comprehensive and long-term perspective while remaining responsive to the challenges of development and the protection of the most vulnerable countries and social groups;

9. *Stresses* the importance of strong domestic institutions to promote financial stability for the achievement of growth and development, inter alia, through sound macroeconomic policies and policies aimed at strengthening the regulatory systems of the financial and banking sectors, including considering arrangements in destination and source countries to reduce the risks of excessive international financial volatility and measures to ensure orderly, gradual and well-sequenced capital-account liberalization processes, and invites in this connection all relevant international institutions to continue to provide, upon the request of concerned countries, policy advice and technical assistance so as to strengthen their capacity in the above-mentioned areas;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of deepening the convergence of the efforts of all international institutions able to contribute to the strengthening of an international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity;

11. *Reiterates* the need for broadening and strengthening the participation of developing countries in the international economic decision-making process;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of the improved participation of developing countries in the work of the international institutions dealing with the reform of the international financial architecture, in particular the International Monetary Fund, as well as in relevant norm-setting processes;

13. *Expresses the need* for multilateral surveillance by the International Monetary Fund and regional and subregional institutions of all countries in a symmetrical manner;

14. *Emphasizes* that the international financial institutions, in providing policy advice and supporting adjustment programmes, should ensure that they are sensitive to the specific circumstances and implementing capacities of concerned countries and to the special needs of developing countries and should work towards the best possible outcomes in terms of growth and development, inter alia, through gender-sensitive employment and poverty eradication policies and strategies, and stresses the importance of national ownership of programmes supported by the International Monetary Fund for their sustained implementation;

15. *Encourages* the continuing efforts undertaken by the Bretton Woods institutions, the regional development banks and the International Labour Organization to help Governments to address the social consequences of crisis, and welcomes, in this regard, the commitments made by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development, to ensure that, when structural adjustment programmes are agreed to, they include social development goals, in particular those of eradicating poverty, promoting full and productive employment and enhancing social integration;

16. *Emphasizes* that the international financial institutions should, when invited by national Governments, provide assistance and advice, as appropriate, to the countries in their efforts to promote development and reduce poverty through national programmes, including, where relevant, nationally owned and developed poverty reduction strategy papers that integrate macroeconomic, structural and social policies;

17. *Underlines* the continuing importance of providing the international institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund, with adequate resources to provide emergency financing in a timely and accessible manner to countries affected by financial crises, and notes the regional and subregional efforts to facilitate emergency financing in time of crisis;

18. *Welcomes* the progress made in developing early warning capacities to address in a timely manner the threat of financial crisis, and in this regard encourages the International Monetary Fund and other relevant international and regional institutions to continue their efforts to contribute to this process;

19. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular the World Bank and the regional development banks, and other relevant international and regional institutions, including the regional commissions, working with the private sector, to support the promotion of long-term private financial

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[47] See *Global public goods: international cooperation in the 21st century*, edited by Inge Kaul, Isabelle Grunberg and Marc A. Stern, published for the United Nations Development Programme by Oxford University Press, New York, 1999.

flows, especially foreign direct investments, inter alia, through enhanced technical cooperation, to all developing countries as well as economies in transition, in particular the least developed countries and other developing countries with special difficulties in attracting private financial flows, including those in Africa, as well as the small island developing countries, and, in this context, requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to provide information to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the work it has undertaken on this matter;

20. *Reiterates its invitation* to the International Monetary Fund to facilitate the dialogue among relevant actors to consider the possibility of establishing regulatory frameworks for short-term capital flows and trade in currencies;

21. *Emphasizes* that it is important for sovereign risk assessments made by private sector agencies to be based on objective and transparent parameters;

22. *Reaffirms* the need to consider appropriate frameworks for the involvement of the private sector in the prevention and resolution of financial crises, including the need to implement and further refine the framework laid down by the International Monetary and Financial Committee at its meeting held on 16 April 2000, and underlines the importance of an equitable distribution of the cost of adjustments between the public and private sectors and among debtors, creditors and investors, concerning, inter alia, highly leveraged operations, as well as the consideration, in exceptional cases, of debt standstill arrangements;

23. *Emphasizes* the important supportive role that stronger regional and subregional financial institutions and arrangements can play in the reform of the international financial system and the enhancement of financing for development;

24. *Encourages* the deepening of the dialogue between the Economic and Social Council and the Bretton Woods institutions, and in this regard recommends that at their next high-level meeting they consider the modalities needed to consolidate further a broader global agenda for a strengthened and stable international financial system that is responsive to the priorities of growth and development, in particular of developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity in the global economy;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the present resolution available to the Preparatory Committee for the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development, at its second substantive session, as an input for its work on the systemic issues contained in its preliminary substantive agenda;

26. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with all relevant entities of the United Nations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions, within their respective mandates, and in consultation with the Bretton Woods institutions, and taking into account the progress made at the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution under a sub-item entitled "International financial system and development", with an analysis of the current trend in global financial flows, including net transfer of resources between developed and developing countries, and recommendations to consolidate further a broader global agenda for a strengthened and stable international financial system that is responsive to the priorities of growth and development, in particular of developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity in the global economy;

27. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to present this resolution to the Board of Executive Directors of the World Bank and the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund, before their joint annual spring meeting, in order to bring it to their attention as an input to their discussions on the matters addressed herein.

## RESOLUTION 55/187

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/580, para. 15)[48]

### 55/187. Industrial development cooperation

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 46/151 of 18 December 1991, 49/108 of 19 December 1994, 51/170 of 16 December 1996 and 53/177 of 15 December 1998 on industrial development cooperation,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by the heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[49]

*Recognizing* the increasing role of the business community, including the private sector, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the industrial sector,

*Recognizing also* the importance of the transfer of technology to the developing countries as an effective means of international cooperation in the field of industrial development,

*Taking note* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization,[50]

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[48] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[49] See resolution 55/2.

[50] See A/55/356.

1. *Reiterates* that industrialization is a key element in the promotion of the sustainable development of developing countries, as well as in the creation of productive employment, eradication of poverty and facilitation of social integration, including the integration of women into the development process;

2. *Stresses* the importance of domestic industrial transformation in developing countries as a way of increasing the value added of their export earnings, so that they may benefit fully from the process of globalization and trade liberalization;

3. *Recognizes* the need for industry to play an enhanced role in fighting the marginalization of developing countries;

4. *Underlines* the importance of industrial development cooperation and a positive investment and business climate at the international, regional, subregional and national levels in promoting the expansion, diversification and modernization of productive capacities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

5. *Reaffirms* the need, within the existing service modules of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, for initiatives stretching beyond those associated with economic adjustment and stabilization to support the survival and expansion of manufacturing activity in developing countries, especially in the least developed countries;

6. *Emphasizes* the necessity of a favourable international and national environment for the industrialization of developing countries, and urges all Governments to adopt and to implement development policies and strategies that promote, within a framework of transparent and accountable industrialization policies, inter alia, enterprise development, foreign direct investment, technological adaptation and innovation, expanded access to markets and effective use of official development assistance to enable developing countries to enhance an environment that is attractive to investment so as to augment and supplement domestic resources for the expansion, diversification and modernization of their industrial production capacity in the context of an open, equitable, non-discriminatory, transparent, multilateral and rule-based international trading system;

7. *Acknowledges* the interlinkage of globalization and interdependence, and reiterates the importance of the transfer of technology to the developing countries as an effective means of international cooperation in the field of industrial development;

8. *Confirms* the contribution of industry to social development, especially in the context of the linkages between industry and agriculture, and notes that within the totality of these interlinkages, industry serves as a powerful source of the employment generation, income creation and social integration required for the eradication of poverty;

9. *Recognizes* the continuing use of official development assistance also for industrial development in the developing countries, and calls upon donor countries and recipient countries to continue to cooperate in their efforts to achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness of official development assistance resources devoted to industrial development cooperation;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance, for developing countries, of financing for industrial development, including market-based mechanisms and instruments as well as innovative funding modalities, such as co-financing schemes and trust funds, debt-equity swaps and, as appropriate, other debt relief measures and official development assistance specifically designed to strengthen the industrial capacities of developing countries through, inter alia, the facilitation of private capital flows, and, in this regard, requests relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in the context of their strategic partnership, to support developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts to mobilize resources for industrial development, especially by means of investment promotion activities, the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, an increase in the competitiveness of their exports, the encouragement of practices to promote employment in industries and various forms of business partnerships, such as industrial joint venture schemes, enterprise-to-enterprise cooperation and venture capital funds for industrial development;

11. *Reiterates* the importance of cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system in providing effective support for the sustainable industrial development of developing countries, calls upon the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to carry out its central coordinating role within the United Nations system in that respect, and welcomes its efforts to strengthen its cooperation with the rest of the United Nations system at both the headquarters and field levels by, inter alia, actively participating in the resident coordinator system, so as to enhance the effectiveness, relevance and development impact of such support;

12. *Calls upon* the international community and the relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to support the efforts of the developing countries to intensify and expand industrial cooperation among themselves with respect to, among other things, trade in manufactured products, industrial investments and business partnerships, and industrial technology and scientific exchanges;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in cooperation with the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to continue to undertake an in-depth assessment, analysis and dissemination of

best practices in the area of industrial policies and strategies and of lessons learned in industrial development, taking into account the effects of financial crises and the impact of globalization on the industrial structure of the developing countries, so as to support and boost South-South cooperation by providing practical insights and ideas for international industrial development cooperation and for economic and technical cooperation among developing countries;

14. *Emphasizes* the need for financial support to enable the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to implement its technical cooperation programmes and to strengthen its global forum activities, and, at the same time, strongly urges present and former member States to pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without conditions;

15. *Welcomes* the structural transformation and revitalization of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization as well as its new approach in providing comprehensive and integrated services to its member States and the strengthening of its field representation, and requests it to continue to support the industrialization efforts of developing countries and to continue to accord priority to the needs of the least developed countries and countries in the African region;

16. *Also welcomes* the focus of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization both on the strengthening of industrial capacities and on cleaner and sustainable industrial development, in the context of its new programme orientation, as well as its cooperation with the relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/188

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/580, para. 15)[51]

### 55/188. Preventing and combating corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds and repatriation of such funds to the countries of origin

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/176 of 15 December 1998 on action against corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions, 54/205 of 22 December 1999 on the prevention of corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds and 55/61 of 4 December 2000 on an effective international legal instrument against corruption,

*Concerned* about the seriousness of problems posed by corruption, which may endanger the stability and security of societies, undermine the values of democracy and morality and jeopardize social, economic and political development,

*Recognizing* the importance of international cooperation and existing international and national laws for combating corruption in international commercial transactions,

*Noting with appreciation* the recent adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its two protocols,[52]

*Recognizing* the important role of the business community, including, in particular, the private sector, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the agricultural, industrial and service sectors and the need to create an enabling environment at the national and international levels for business in order to facilitate economic growth and sustainable development of developing countries, most especially African countries, taking into account the development priorities of Governments,

*Mindful* of the very important role that the private sector can play in fostering economic growth and development and of the active involvement of the United Nations system in facilitating the constructive participation and orderly interaction of the private sector in the development process by embracing universal principles and norms, such as honesty, transparency and accountability,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the prevention of corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds,[53]

1. *Reiterates its condemnation* of corruption, bribery, money-laundering and the illegal transfer of funds;

2. *Calls* for further international and national measures to combat corrupt practices and bribery in international transactions and for international cooperation in support of those measures;

3. *Also calls* for, while recognizing the importance of national measures, increased international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in regard to devising ways and means of preventing and addressing illegal transfers, as well as repatriating illegally transferred funds to the countries of origin, and calls upon all countries and entities concerned to cooperate in this regard;

4. *Requests* the international community to support the efforts of all countries to strengthen institutional capacity and

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[51] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[52] Resolution 55/25, annexes I–III.

[53] A/55/405.

regulatory frameworks for preventing corruption, bribery, money-laundering and illegal transfer of funds, as well as for the repatriation of those funds to the countries of origin;

5. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, as contained in resolution 55/61, to convene an intergovernmental open-ended expert group to examine and prepare, on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General and of recommendations of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its tenth session, draft terms of reference for the negotiation of the future legal instrument against corruption, and invites the expert group on the same basis to examine the question of illegally transferred funds and the repatriation of such funds to the countries of origin;

6. *Decides* to keep this matter under review, and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and relevant bodies of the United Nations system, to prepare, without duplicating material contained in the report requested by the Assembly in resolution 55/61, an analytical report containing information on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution and, bearing in mind resolution 54/205, concrete recommendations, inter alia, with regard to the repatriation of illegally transferred funds to the countries of origin, and to submit the report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Sectoral policy questions: business and development".

## RESOLUTION 55/189

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/581/Add.6, para. 5)[54]

### 55/189. Status of preparation for the International Year of Mountains, 2002

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/24 of 10 November 1998 on the International Year of Mountains, 2002,

*Recalling also* the relevant provisions of Agenda 21,[55] in particular chapter 13 concerning mountain ecosystems and their conservation and sustainable development,

*Recalling further* Economic and Social Council resolutions 1997/45 of 22 July 1997 and 1998/30 of 29 July 1998,

*Recalling* the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Coordination, programme and other questions: proclamation of an international year of mountains",[56]

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of preparations for the International Year of Mountains, 2002,[57]

*Noting with appreciation* the work already undertaken to achieve sustainable mountain development by States, organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and non-governmental organizations,[58]

1. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by States, United Nations organizations, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and non-governmental organizations in preparation for the observance of the International Year of Mountains, and encourages them to continue their efforts;

2. *Encourages* all States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the International Year of Mountains to ensure the present and future well-being of mountain communities by promoting conservation and sustainable development in mountain areas; to increase awareness and knowledge of mountain ecosystems, their dynamics and functioning, and their overriding importance in providing a number of crucial goods and services essential to the well-being of both rural and urban, highland and lowland people, in particular water supply, food security; and to promote and defend the cultural heritage of mountain communities and societies;

3. *Encourages* States and relevant United Nations funds and programmes, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to support local, national and international programmes and projects for the International Year of Mountains, inter alia, through voluntary financial contributions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session an interim report on the activities of the International Year of Mountains and to

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[54] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Zambia.

[55] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. .93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[56] E/1998/68.

[57] A/55/218.

[58] See E/1998/80 and A/54/767.

report to the Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the outcome of the Year and the further implementation of efforts to achieve sustainable mountain development, taking into account any relevant decisions adopted during the ten-year review of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002.

## RESOLUTION 55/190

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/581/Add.1, para. 5)[59]

### 55/190. Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the importance and continuing validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

*Recalling* the results of all the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings held since the beginning of the 1990s,

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[60] in particular the targets and commitments relating to development and poverty eradication,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the several other development-oriented meetings being convened under the auspices of the United Nations over the next two years, including the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development, the special session of the General Assembly to review and address the problem of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, the special session of the General Assembly on children, the ten-year review of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[61] and the draft text of an international development strategy for the first decade of the new millennium, submitted by the Secretary-General,[62]

1. *Expresses regret* that the consultations foreseen in resolution 54/206 of 22 December 1999 could not be held;

2. *Decides* to postpone the further development of a new international development strategy until after the aforementioned meetings have been held;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session with an overview of the challenges and constraints as well as progress made towards achieving the major development goals and objectives adopted by the United Nations during the decade of the 1990s;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Decade".

## RESOLUTION 55/191

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/581/Add.2, para. 6)[63]

### 55/191. Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 47/187 of 22 December 1992, 48/181 of 21 December 1993, 49/106 of 19 December 1994, 51/175 of 6 December 1996 and 53/179 of 15 December 1998,

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[59] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Kyrgyzstan, and Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[60] See resolution 55/2.

[61] A/55/209.

[62] A/55/89-E/2000/80.

[63] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Georgia, Hungary, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Mongolia, Morocco, New Zealand, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

*Reaffirming also* the need for the full integration of the countries with economies in transition into the world economy,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[64]

*Noting* the progress made in those countries towards achieving macroeconomic and financial stability and economic growth in the course of structural reforms and the need to sustain those positive trends in the future,

*Recognizing* the difficulties faced by the countries with economies in transition in responding adequately to the challenges of globalization, including in the field of information and communication technologies, and the need to enhance their capacity to utilize effectively the benefits and mitigate the negative implications of globalization,

*Recognizing also* the continuing need to ensure favourable conditions for market access of exports from countries with economies in transition, in accordance with multilateral trade agreements,

*Recognizing further* the important role foreign investment should play in those countries, and stressing the need to create an enabling environment to attract more foreign direct investment,

*Noting* the aspiration of the countries with economies in transition towards the further development of regional and interregional cooperation,

1. *Welcomes* the measures taken by the organizations of the United Nations system to implement General Assembly resolutions on the integration of the economies in transition into the world economy;

2. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, in collaboration with relevant non-United Nations multilateral and regional institutions, to continue to conduct analytical activities and provide policy advice and technical assistance to the Governments of the countries with economies in transition aimed at strengthening the social and political framework for completing market-oriented reforms with a view to sustaining the positive trends in the economic and social development of those countries, and, in this regard, emphasizes the importance of their further integration into the knowledge-based world economy through the effective utilization of information and communication technologies;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution with particular focus on an analysis that would determine the progress achieved in the integration of countries with economies in transition into the world economy.

## RESOLUTION 55/192

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/581/Add.3, para. 7)[65]

### 55/192. Culture and development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, 46/158 of 19 December 1991, 51/179 of 16 December 1996, 52/197 of 18 December 1997 and 53/184 of 15 December 1998 on cultural development,

*Encouraged* by the positive international response to the results of the work of the World Commission on Culture and Development and of the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies for Development organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at Stockholm from 30 March to 2 April 1998,

*Noting* the steps taken by Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to implement the recommendations in the Action Plan on Cultural Policies for Development adopted at the Conference,[66]

*Bearing in mind* the importance of cultural values and cultural diversity as elements of sustainable development,

*Underlining* the fact that tolerance and respect for cultural diversity and universal promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development, are mutually supportive,

*Emphasizing* the need to enhance the potential of culture as a means of prosperity, sustainable development and global coexistence,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;[67]

2. *Invites* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations:

(*a*) To ensure, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, continuous and effective implementation of the Action Plan on Cultural Policies for Development;[66]

(*b*) To intensify further their efforts to integrate cultural factors into their development programmes and projects, so as to ensure sustainable development that fully respects cultural diversity;

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[64] A/55/188.

[65] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[66] A/53/321, appendix.

[67] See A/55/339.

(*c*) To implement fully the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace adopted by the General Assembly on 13 September 1999;[68]

(*d*) To commit themselves to promoting the dialogue among civilizations as an essential process for human development and mutual understanding and for strengthening international cooperation;

(*e*) To analyse the connection between culture and development and the elimination of poverty in the context of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), as recommended in the Action Plan;

(*f*) To safeguard cultural and linguistic diversity in the context of globalization and to support action by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in this regard;

3. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its work to promote a greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development;

4. *Also encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in conjunction, as appropriate, with other relevant United Nations bodies and multilateral development institutions, to continue to provide support, upon request, to developing countries, in particular in national capacity-building, for the implementation of international cultural conventions, including conservation of heritage and protection of cultural property, and for the restitution of cultural property, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/190 of 17 December 1999, as well as support and opportunities for the promotion and enhancement of cultural goods and services and of cultural tourism respectful of the integrity of cultural and natural heritage;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/193

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/581/Add.4, para. 6)[69]

## 55/193. High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, 52/186 of 18 December 1997, 53/181 of 15 December 1998 and 54/213 of 22 December 1999,

*Recalling also* its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, entitled "United Nations Millennium Declaration",

*Recalling further* the Agenda for Development[70] and the relevant provisions on its follow-up and implementation, and the need to give impetus to international economic cooperation for development so as to follow up on the Agenda effectively,

*Reaffirming* the importance of continuing the dialogue to be conducted in response to the imperative of solidarity, mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and the partnership in promoting international economic cooperation for development,

*Recognizing*, in this context, the importance of an enabling environment and sound economic policy at both the national and the international levels,

*Taking note* of the need to ensure the integrated and coordinated follow-up and implementation by the United Nations system of the outcome of major United Nations conferences and summits,

*Taking note also* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership",[71] concerning the past experience of the high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of continued constructive dialogue and genuine partnership to promote further international economic cooperation for development in the twenty-first century;

2. *Reiterates* the overall theme adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/213, namely, "Responding to globalization: facilitating the integration of developing countries into the world economy in the twenty-first century";

3. *Endorses* the agreement reached at the intergovernmental consultations, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[71] whereby the two sub-themes of the second high-level dialogue would be (*a*) "Promoting the

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[68] Resolutions 53/243 A and B.

[69] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[70] Resolution 51/240, annex.

[71] A/55/314.

integration of developing countries into the world economy and generating new public and private financing resources to complement development efforts" and (*b*) "Enhancing the integration of developing countries in the emerging global information network, facilitating access to information and communication technology for developing countries", and decides that the high-level dialogue will be convened for two days immediately prior to the commencement of the general debate at the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, that the high-level dialogue shall consist of plenary meetings, ministerial round-table meetings and informal panels, with the participation of non-governmental actors, and that the final outcome of the dialogue will be a summary by the President, to be presented at the closure of the event;

4. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to continue preparations for the second high-level dialogue, in close collaboration with Member States and taking into account the experience of the first high-level dialogue, as well as recent experience in the preparation and organization of high-level events;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Governments, all relevant parts of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, to prepare for the second high-level dialogue, taking into account the results of major United Nations conferences and summits, General Assembly resolution 54/213, the outcome of the consultations held by the Chairman of the Second Committee, any further guidance provided by Member States and the outcome of the consideration of the relevant item by the General Assembly at its current session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a consolidated report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/194

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/581/Add.5, para. 13)[72]

## 55/194. Scope to be covered by the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* paragraph 218 of the Habitat Agenda[73] and its resolutions 51/177 of 16 December 1996 on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and 53/180 of 15 December 1998 in which it decided that its special session for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Conference would be held in June 2001 and that the Commission on Human Settlements should serve as the Preparatory Committee for the special session,

*Taking into account* its resolutions 54/208 and 54/209 of 22 December 1999 on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and on the follow-up to the Conference,

*Bearing in mind* Commission on Human Settlements resolutions 17/1 and 17/14 of 14 May 1999 on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[74]

*Taking note* of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements acting as the Preparatory Committee for the special session, on its first substantive session, held at Nairobi from 8 to 12 May 2000,[75]

*Taking note also* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation by the United Nations system of the Habitat Agenda,[76]

### I

### Outcome of the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda

1. *Confirms* that the special session should result in:

(*a*) Reconfirmation of the goals and commitments of the Habitat Agenda[73] and review of the status of implementation, including the identification of progress, gaps, obstacles and challenges;

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[72] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[73] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[74] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No 8* (A/54/8), annex I, sect. A.

[75] A/55/121.

[76] A/55/83-E/2000/62.

(*b*) The setting of global priorities for future action;

2. *Emphasizes* the role of the Commission on Human Settlements, as a standing body of the Economic and Social Council, as a central monitoring and coordinating body within the United Nations system for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

3. *Also emphasizes* the existing role of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in supporting the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

4. *Further emphasizes*, while recognizing that the implementation of the Habitat Agenda is the sovereign right and responsibility of each State, that international cooperation as stipulated in the Agenda remains an important component in the implementation of the Agenda;

## II

### Arrangements regarding participation of Habitat Agenda partners and observers in the special session

1. *Decides* that representatives of local authorities, non-governmental organizations and other Habitat Agenda partners may make statements in the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole and in the thematic committee of the special session for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

2. *Also decides* that, given the time available, a limited number of representatives of local authorities, non-governmental organizations and other Habitat Agenda partners may also make statements in the debate in plenary meeting, and requests the President of the General Assembly to submit the list of selected Habitat Agenda partners to the Member States in a timely manner for approval and to ensure that the selection of speakers is made on an equal and transparent basis, taking into account the geographical representation and diversity of Habitat Agenda partners;

3. *Further decides* that observers may make statements during the debate in plenary meeting in accordance with the rules and procedures of the General Assembly;

4. *Decides* that arrangements concerning the accreditation and participation of Habitat Agenda partners in the special session shall in no way create a precedent for other special sessions of the General Assembly;

## III

### Arrangements regarding accreditation of Habitat Agenda partners to the special session

1. *Decides* that accreditation to the special session shall be open to:

(*a*) Habitat Agenda partners that were accredited to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

(*b*) Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, with the exception of those whose application for consultative status with the Council has been rejected or whose consultative status has been withdrawn or suspended;

2. *Also decides* that accreditation of other interested and relevant Habitat Agenda partners that were not accredited to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) should be considered by the Preparatory Committee, provided that those partners submit to the Committee composed of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee and the Secretariat by 9 February 2001 an application for accreditation containing the following information:

(*a*) The purpose of the organization;

(*b*) Information identifying the programmes and activities of the organization in areas relevant to the subject of the special session and indicating in which country or countries they are carried out;

(*c*) Confirmation of the activities of the organization at the national, regional or international levels;

(*d*) Copies of annual or other reports of the organization, with financial statements and a list of financial sources and contributions, including governmental contributions;

(*e*) A list of the members of the governing body of the organization and their country of nationality;

(*f*) A description of the membership of the organization, indicating the total number of members, the names or organizations that are members and their geographical distribution;

(*g*) A copy of the constitution and/or by-laws of the organization;

and further decides that the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee should submit by 19 February 2001 to the Preparatory Committee at its second session a list of partners that have submitted their application containing information on each partner's competence and relevance to the subject of the special session, and that the Preparatory Committee at its second session shall decide on a no-objection basis regarding the accreditation of those partners;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to disseminate widely all available information on accreditation procedures for the special session;

4. *Decides* that the arrangements set out above concerning accreditation to the special session shall in no way create a precedent for other special sessions of the General Assembly;

### IV

### Action at the local, national and regional levels

1. *Calls upon* all States to strengthen broad-based, participatory, gender-balanced national habitat committees, or similar consultative mechanisms, to review and report on local and national plans of action and, through consultative mechanisms, to coordinate and support further the implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the local and national levels;

2. *Urges* States to focus their assessment and monitoring of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the local, national and regional levels on key commitments related to policies and methods of evaluation, and recommends that States identify best practices, including enabling policies, legislation and exemplary plans of action, in implementing the Habitat Agenda in a gender-sensitive way, that they promote research on low-cost building technology for affordable housing and that they support the transfer of all such knowledge to ensure sustainability;

3. *Confirms* that the special session should facilitate sharing views on local, national and regional experiences in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

### V

### Partnership and the role of civil society

1. *Encourages* Member States to integrate contributions made by different partner groups towards further implementation of the Habitat Agenda in their national reports and to consider the inclusion of partner groups in broad-based, gender-balanced national delegations;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to report to the Preparatory Committee at its second session on the activities of the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities;

### VI

### Monitoring and assessment

1. *Encourages* Member States and Habitat Agenda partners to provide support for the preparation of the *Global Report on Human Settlements* and the *State of the World's Cities* report on a biennial basis so as to raise awareness of human settlements and to provide information on urban conditions and trends around the world;

2. *Recommends* that the Commission on Human Settlements pursue agreement by all Member States on a pool of common and easy-to-measure indicators applicable for national reporting and evaluation;

3. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations organizations and agencies and other development partners to support the efforts of national Governments to coordinate data collection and analysis and to develop a monitoring system at the local level on sustainable human settlements, with appropriate strengthening at all levels;

4. *Encourages* all Governments and partners to submit to the Secretariat examples of enabling urban policies and legislation relating to key items selected for country reporting to allow the Secretariat to combine best practices, enabling policies, legislation and action plans;

### VII

### International cooperation

1. *Requests* the Preparatory Committee, at its second session, to prepare a draft declaration on cities and other human settlements in the new millennium;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to report to the special session on the implementation of the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda, namely, adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development, as well as on the actions and achievements of the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure and the Global Campaign for Urban Governance;

3. *Calls upon* the international community to support developing countries in the preparatory process for the special session, the second session of the Preparatory Committee and the special session itself;

4. *Requests* the international community to support urban poverty eradication in developing countries as well as reconstruction programmes following conflicts and natural disasters in order to allow affected countries to implement the Habitat Agenda effectively.

## RESOLUTION 55/195

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/581/Add.5, para. 13)[77]

## 55/195. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 51/177 of 16 December 1996, 52/190 of 18 December 1997, 53/180 of 15 December 1998, 54/207 of 22 December 1999 and 54/209 of 22 December 1999,

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[77] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council decision 1999/281 of 30 July 1999, and taking note of agreed conclusions 2000/1 of the Economic and Social Council concerning the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)[78] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[79]

*Acknowledging* the efforts made to secure extrabudgetary resources to defray the costs of the participation of representatives of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in the sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the special session itself in June 2001, as requested in paragraph 14 of resolution 53/180, and noting with concern that the response has not been adequate,

*Taking note* of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements acting as the Preparatory Committee for the special session, on its first substantive session, held at Nairobi from 8 to 12 May 2000,[80]

*Taking note also* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation by the United Nations system of the Habitat Agenda,[81]

1. *Welcomes* the appointment of the new Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat);

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider further strengthening of the Centre through the provision of the requisite support and stable, adequate and predictable financial resources, including by proposing additional regular budget resources and sufficient human resources, as envisaged by the General Assembly in its resolutions 52/220 of 22 December 1997 and 53/242 of 28 July 1999, for the consideration of the Assembly, with due regard for proper United Nations budgetary procedures;

3. *Decides* that the special session shall be held from 6 to 8 June 2001 at United Nations Headquarters in New York;

4. *Also decides* that the special session shall have a plenary, an ad hoc committee of the whole and a thematic committee, the details of which shall be worked out by the Preparatory Committee at its second session;

5. *Further decides* that the provisional agenda shall include the following items:

(*a*) Review and appraisal of progress made in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[82]

(*b*) Further actions and initiatives for overcoming obstacles to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

(*c*) A declaration on cities and other human settlements in the new millennium;

6. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to participate in the special session at the highest political level possible and, in the meantime, to continue to extend support to the preparatory process;

7. *Also reiterates its invitation* to States members of the specialized agencies of the United Nations that are not members of the United Nations, as well as Palestine, in their capacity as observers, to participate in the special session in accordance with the rules and procedures of the General Assembly;

8. *Invites* other entities having a standing invitation to participate in the United Nations as observers to participate in the special session in accordance with the rules and procedures of the General Assembly;

9. *Decides* to invite the footnoted associate members[83] of the regional commissions to participate as observers in the special session and its preparatory process, subject to the rules of the General Assembly;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider defraying the costs not covered by General Assembly resolution 1798 (XVII) of 11 December 1962 of the participation of one governmental representative from each least developed country in the special session and the cost of their participation in the second session of the Preparatory Committee through the use of extrabudgetary resources and, in the event that those resources prove to be insufficient, requests the Secretary-General to seek extrabudgetary funding from all possible sources;

11. *Calls upon* all States in a position to do so to make voluntary financial contributions to the Secretariat to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and their civil society partners to prepare adequately for, and be fully involved in, the preparatory process and the special session itself;

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[78] A/55/3, chap. V, para. 6. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3.*

[79] See resolution 55/2.

[80] A/55/121.

[81] A/55/83-E/2000/62.

[82] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[83] American Samoa, Anguilla, Aruba, British Virgin Islands, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, New Caledonia, Niue, Puerto Rico and United States Virgin Islands.

12. *Reiterates its invitation* to all relevant organs, funds and programmes, as well as the agencies of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, to continue to contribute to and be actively involved in the preparatory process and the special session;

13. *Welcomes* the launching of the Cities Alliance initiative by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the World Bank to implement effectively the Cities without Slums programme of action as part of the efforts to achieve the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda, namely, adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world, requests the Executive Director of the Centre to take a leadership and coordinating role in this initiative, and urges the Cities Alliance to include national Governments of developing countries as well as relevant United Nations organizations and specialized agencies in this initiative;

14. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to report to the special session on the Cities Alliance initiative, including on its contribution to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

15. *Requests* the Preparatory Committee and the special session to take into account the outcome of the coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council on the implementation of the Habitat Agenda within the United Nations system;[84]

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-sixth session a report on the special session;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session an item entitled "Implementation of the Habitat Agenda and outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on this topic".

## RESOLUTION 55/196

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/582/Add.8, para. 16)[85]

### 55/196. International Year of Freshwater, 2003

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the provisions of Agenda 21,[86] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted at its nineteenth special session[87] and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and those of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixth session,[88] relating to freshwater,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in which the Council recognized the contribution that the celebration of international years could make to the furtherance of international cooperation and understanding,

*Recalling further* its resolution 53/199 of 15 December 1998 on the proclamation of international years,

*Noting* the ongoing work in the United Nations system and the work of other intergovernmental organizations on freshwater,

1. *Proclaims* the year 2003 as the International Year of Freshwater;

2. *Invites* the Subcommittee on Water Resources of the Administrative Committee on Coordination to serve as the coordinating entity for the Year and to develop relevant preliminary proposals for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on possible activities, including possible sources of funding, that could take place at all levels, as appropriate;

3. *Calls upon* Member States, national and international organizations, major groups and the private sector to make voluntary contributions in accordance with the guidelines for international years and anniversaries;

4. *Encourages* all Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year to increase awareness of the importance of freshwater and to promote action at the local, national, regional and international levels;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a progress report on the preparations for the International Year of Freshwater.

## RESOLUTION 55/197

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/582/Add.8, para. 16)[89]

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[84] A/55/3, chap. V. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3*.

[85] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[86] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[87] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[88] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 9* (E/1998/29).

[89] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

## 55/197. International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998 and 54/220 of 22 December 1999 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999 and 1999/63 of 30 July 1999, and taking note of Council resolution 2000/33 of 28 July 2000,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[90]

*Reaffirming* the importance of international cooperation for a better scientific understanding of the El Niño phenomenon and that international cooperation and solidarity with the affected countries are indispensable,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and rehabilitate the damage caused by natural disasters resulting from the El Niño phenomenon,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General;[90]

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the measures adopted in order to ensure the continuity of international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon, within the framework of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and reiterates its invitation to Member States, organs and organizations of the United Nations system, contained in paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of its resolution 52/200;

3. *Welcomes* the establishment of the working group on the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon within the framework of the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and the international community to adopt, as appropriate, the necessary measures for the prompt establishment of the international centre for the study of the El Niño phenomenon at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and invites the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for that purpose, in accordance with resolution 54/220;

5. *Invites* the Government of the host country to facilitate the process for the prompt establishment of the international centre for the study of the El Niño phenomenon;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the full implementation of its resolutions 52/200, 53/185, 54/219 and 54/220 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46, 1999/63 and 2000/33;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2001, on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

### RESOLUTION 55/198

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/582/Add.8, para. 16)[91]

## 55/198. Enhancing complementarities among international instruments related to environment and sustainable development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* Agenda 21[92] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21adopted at its nineteenth special session,[93] and its resolutions 53/186 of 15 December 1998, 53/242 of 28 July 1999 and 54/217 of 22 December 1999,

*Reaffirming* the need, as stipulated in the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, for greater coherence in various intergovernmental organizations and processes by means of better policy coordination at the intergovernmental level, as well as for continued and more concerted efforts to enhance collaboration among the secretariats of relevant decision-making bodies, within their respective mandates,

*Emphasizing* the need for the conferences of the parties and the secretariats of the environmental conventions to continue to pursue sustainable development objectives that are consistent with those conventions and with Agenda 21,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on international institutional arrangements related to environment and sustainable development;[94]

2. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the secretariats of the instruments related to environment and sustainable development and other relevant organizations to implement resolution 54/217;

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[90] A/55/99-E/2000/86.

[91] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[92] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. .93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[93] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[94] A/55/357.

3. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to, and the secretariats of, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[95] the Convention on Biological Diversity[96] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[97] and other international instruments related to environment and sustainable development, as well as relevant organizations, especially the United Nations Environment Programme, including, as appropriate, the involvement of the environmental management group, to continue their work for enhancing complementarities among them with full respect for the status of the secretariats of the conventions and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, and to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in the implementation of those conventions at the international, regional and national levels and to report thereon to their respective conferences of the parties;

4. *Also encourages* the conferences of the parties, assisted by their secretariats, to coordinate the timing of their sessions and the sessions of their subsidiary bodies, taking into account the organization of work of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development;

5. *Further encourages* the conferences of the parties to promote the streamlining of national reporting;

6. *Invites* the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, and other international instruments related to environment and sustainable development, as well as relevant organizations, to provide further information on their work to implement resolution 54/217 and other complementary activities in their contributions to the preparatory process for the review of the implementation of Agenda 21, to be carried out in 2002;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take into account the above-mentioned work in the preparation of documentation and other preparatory activities for the review of the implementation of Agenda 21, to be carried out in 2002.

## RESOLUTION 55/199

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/582/Add.1, para. 15)[98]

### 55/199. Ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, held in New York from 23 to 28 June 1997,

*Recalling also* that Agenda 21[99] and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[100] should constitute the framework within which the other results of the Conference are reviewed, and from within which new challenges and opportunities that have emerged since the Conference are addressed,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 53/188 of 15 December 1998 and 54/218 of 22 December 1999 on the implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the Conference and the special session, as well as its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000,

*Recalling* Commission on Sustainable Development decision 8/1 on preparations for the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the Conference,[101]

*Recalling also* that chapter 33 of Agenda 21 identified the Global Environment Facility as one source of financing for the implementation of Agenda 21,

*Recalling further* the importance for developing countries of chapter 34 of Agenda 21,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on ensuring effective preparations for the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of

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[95] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[96] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[97] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[98] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[99] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[100] Ibid., annex I.

[101] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 9* (E/2000/29), chap. I, sect. B.

Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[102]

*Taking note with appreciation also* of the Malmö Ministerial Declaration adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its sixth special session,[103]

*Deeply concerned* that, despite the many successful and continuing efforts of the international community since the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm from 5 to 16 June 1972, and the fact that some progress has been achieved, the environment and the natural resource base that support life on earth continue to deteriorate at an alarming rate,

*Reaffirming* the political importance of the forthcoming ten-year review of progress achieved since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and stressing that the review should focus on the implementation of Agenda 21 and the other results of the Conference, as well as the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session,[104]

*Bearing in mind* that the substantive activities of the review should take into account, as appropriate, the results relevant to sustainable development of other United Nations conferences and summits and their follow-up activities,

*Bearing in mind also* that national reports prepared by Governments since 1992 on national implementation of Agenda 21, to which major groups have contributed, could provide a fair basis for guiding national preparatory processes,

*Reaffirming* that Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development should not be renegotiated and that the review should identify measures for the further implementation of Agenda 21 and the other results of the Conference, including sources of funding,

1. *Decides* to organize the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002 at the summit level to reinvigorate the global commitment to sustainable development, and accepts with gratitude the generous offer of the Government of South Africa to host the summit;

2. *Also decides* to call the summit the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

3. *Further decides* that the review should focus on the identification of accomplishments and areas where further efforts are needed to implement Agenda 21[99] and the other results of the Conference, and on action-oriented decisions in those areas, should address, within the framework of Agenda 21, new challenges and opportunities, and should result in renewed political commitment and support for sustainable development, consistent, inter alia, with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

4. *Decides* that the Summit, including its preparatory process, should ensure a balance between economic development, social development and environmental protection, as these are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development;

5. *Stresses* the importance of early and effective preparations for the Summit and a comprehensive assessment of progress achieved in the implementation of Agenda 21 and the other results of the Conference to be carried out at the local, national, regional and international levels by Governments and the United Nations system so as to ensure high-quality inputs to the review process, and welcomes the preparatory activities carried out so far;

6. *Welcomes* the work undertaken at the regional level, in close collaboration with the respective regional commissions, to implement action programmes for sustainable development that could provide substantive inputs to the preparatory process and the Summit itself;

7. *Also welcomes* the work undertaken by the United Nations Secretariat in close cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and the secretariats of conventions related to the Conference, as well as other relevant organizations, agencies and programmes within and outside the United Nations system and international and regional financial institutions, including the Global Environment Facility, to support preparatory activities, in particular at the national and regional levels, in a coordinated and mutually reinforcing way;

8. *Further welcomes* the report of the Global Environment Facility to the General Assembly on its contributions to the implementation of Agenda 21,[105] and notes the assistance provided by the Facility to the national implementation of Agenda 21;

9. *Welcomes* the decision of the Council of the Global Environment Facility at its last meeting, held from 1 to 3 November 2000,[106] to request the Chief Executive Officer to explore the best options for enhancing the support of the Facility in assisting affected countries, especially those in Africa, in

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[102] A/55/120.

[103] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/55/25), annex I, decision SS.VI/1, annex.

[104] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[105] See A/55/94.

[106] See ICCD/COP(4)/11/Add.1, decision 9/COP.4, para. 2.

implementing the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[107] taking into account the third replenishment;

10. *Also welcomes* the initiation of the third replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, invites all donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to make contributions to the third replenishment and ensure its successful conclusion, and invites the Facility to submit a report to the Summit on the status of the replenishment negotiations;

11. *Invites* relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations and international financial institutions involved with the implementation of Agenda 21, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the Global Environment Facility and the United Nations Development Programme, and of conventions related to the Conference, to participate fully in the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of Agenda 21, including in the preparation of reports for submission to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its tenth session and the Summit, in order to reflect their experiences and the lessons learned and to provide ideas and proposals for the way forward for the further implementation of Agenda 21 in relevant areas;

12. *Encourages* effective contributions from, and the active participation of, all major groups, as identified in Agenda 21, at all stages of the preparatory process, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as well as its established practices related to the participation and engagement of major groups;

13. *Decides* that the Commission on Sustainable Development at its tenth session shall meet as an open-ended Preparatory Committee that will provide for the full and effective participation of all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, as well as other participants in the Commission on Sustainable Development, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission on Sustainable Development by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 of 12 February 1993 and 1995/201 of 8 February 1995;

14. *Invites* regional groups to nominate their candidates for the Bureau of the tenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development by the end of 2000 so that they can be involved in its preparations in advance of the first session of the Preparatory Committee;

15. *Decides* that the Commission, acting as the Preparatory Committee, should:

(*a*) Undertake the comprehensive review and assessment of the implementation of Agenda 21 and the other results of the Conference on the basis of the results of national assessments and subregional and regional preparatory meetings, the documentation to be prepared by the Secretary-General in collaboration with the task managers, and other inputs from relevant international organizations, as well as on the basis of contributions from major groups;

(*b*) Identify major accomplishments and lessons learned in the implementation of Agenda 21;

(*c*) Identify major constraints hindering the implementation of Agenda 21, propose specific time-bound measures to be taken and institutional and financial requirements, and identify the sources of such support;

(*d*) Address new challenges and opportunities that have emerged since the Conference, within the framework of Agenda 21;

(*e*) Address ways of strengthening the institutional framework for sustainable development and evaluate and define the role and programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

(*f*) Consider and decide on accreditation for the participation in the preparatory process and the Summit of relevant non-governmental organizations that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;

(*g*) Propose a provisional agenda and possible main themes for the Summit based on the results of the preparatory activities carried out at the national, subregional, regional and international levels, taking into account also the input of major groups;

(*h*) Propose rules and procedures for the participation of representatives of major groups in the Summit, taking into account the rules and procedures applied at the Conference;

(*i*) Undertake any other functions that may be required by the preparatory process;

16. *Also decides* to hold, as recommended by the Commission on Sustainable Development in its decision 8/1,[101] a three-day meeting of the tenth session of the Commission, so that the Commission can start its work as the Preparatory Committee for the Summit, and, in this context, invites the Commission to start its organizational work in order to do the following:

(*a*) Elect, from among all States, a Bureau composed of ten members, with two representatives from each of the geographical groups, one of whom would be elected Chairperson and the others Vice-Chairpersons, one of whom would also act as the Rapporteur;

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[107] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

(*b*) Consider progress in preparatory activities carried out at the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels, as well as by major groups;

(*c*) Decide, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 17 below, on the specific modalities of the future sessions of the Preparatory Committee;

(*d*) Consider a process for setting the agenda and determining possible main themes for the Summit in a timely manner;

17. *Further decides* that, in 2002, the Commission on Sustainable Development, acting as the Preparatory Committee for the Summit, shall hold three additional sessions, organized as follows:

(*a*) At its first and second sessions, to be held in January and March 2002, respectively, the Preparatory Committee shall undertake the comprehensive review and assessment of progress achieved in the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21; at its second session, the Preparatory Committee shall agree on the text of a document containing the results of the review and assessment, as well as conclusions and recommendations for further action;

(*b*) Drawing upon the agreed text of such a document, the Preparatory Committee at its third and final session, to be held at the ministerial level in May 2002, shall prepare a concise and focused document that should emphasize the need for a global partnership to achieve the objectives of sustainable development, reconfirm the need for an integrated and strategically focused approach to the implementation of Agenda 21, and address the main challenges and opportunities faced by the international community in this regard; the document submitted for further consideration and adoption by the Summit should reinvigorate, at the highest political level, the global commitment to a North/South partnership and a higher level of international solidarity and to the accelerated implementation of Agenda 21 and the promotion of sustainable development;

18. *Decides* to organize the third and final session of the Preparatory Committee at the ministerial level in Indonesia, and accepts with gratitude the generous offer of the Government of Indonesia to host it;

19. *Stresses* that the preparatory meetings and the Summit itself should be transparent and provide for effective participation and inputs from Governments and regional and international organizations, including financial institutions, and for contributions from and the active participation of major groups, as identified in Agenda 21;

20. *Welcomes* the establishment of a trust fund, urges international and bilateral donors and other countries in a position to do so to support the preparations for the ten-year review through voluntary contributions to the trust fund and to support the participation of representatives of developing countries in the regional and international preparatory process and the Summit itself, and encourages voluntary contributions to support the participation of major groups of developing countries in the regional and international preparatory processes and the Summit itself;

21. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the state of preparations for the Summit for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, taking into account, inter alia, the inputs of the various regional meetings;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21".

## RESOLUTION 55/200

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/582/Add.1, para. 15)[108]

### 55/200. Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its sixth special session

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it decided to establish the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 54/216 of 22 December 1999 on the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twentieth session and 53/242 of 28 July 1999 on the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements,

*Recalling further* the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, adopted by the Governing Council of the Programme at its nineteenth session,[109]

*Underlining* the fact that the forthcoming ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development will provide the international community with a unique opportunity to take action to implement its commitments and to strengthen the international cooperation urgently required to address the challenges of sustainable development in the twenty-first century,

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[108] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[109] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.

*Reaffirming* the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in the preparations for the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the Conference, as reflected in the decisions taken by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighth session,[110]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its sixth special session,[111] takes note of the decisions contained therein as well as the consultations among member States in preparation for the twenty-first session, and, in this regard, also takes note of the ongoing consultations contributing to the further elaboration and implementation of the water policy and strategy of the Programme;

2. *Welcomes* the convening of the First Global Ministerial Environment Forum, and, in this regard, expresses its deep appreciation to the Government of Sweden for the generous manner in which it hosted and provided facilities for the Forum, and takes note with appreciation of the Malmö Ministerial Declaration[112] as one of the contributions to the Millennium Summit and to the preparations for the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the section of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on protecting our common environment,[113] in which heads of State and Government reaffirmed the principles of sustainable development as set out in Agenda 21,[114] and in particular resolved to adopt a new ethic of conservation and stewardship in all our environmental actions;

4. *Welcomes* the decision[115] of the Governing Council on the contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;[116]

5. *Stresses* that the United Nations Environment Programme, as the principal body in the field of the environment within the United Nations system, should continue to play an important role in the implementation of Agenda 21 and in the preparations for the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the Conference;

6. *Underlines* the need for sufficient financial resources, on a stable and predictable basis, to ensure the full implementation of the mandate of the Programme, in particular with a view to ensuring its strong involvement in the preparatory process for the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the Conference at its various levels, and in the implementation of the outcome of the review;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources from the regular budget of the United Nations to the United Nations Environment Programme for the biennium 2002-2003, in accordance with current budgetary practices, and to consider other ways to support the strengthening of the Programme in view of the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

## RESOLUTION 55/201

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/582/Add.2, para. 6)[117]

### 55/201. Convention on Biological Diversity

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/221 of 22 December 1999 on the Convention on Biological Diversity[118] and other relevant resolutions, including its resolution 49/119 of 19 December 1994, in which it proclaimed 29 December, the date of the entry into force of the Convention, the International Day for Biological Diversity,

*Recalling also* the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

*Reaffirming* that the conservation of biological diversity is a common concern of humankind,

*Recalling* that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

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[110] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 9* (E/2000/29).

[111] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/55/25).

[112] Ibid., annex I, decision SS.VI/1, annex.

[113] See resolution 55/2.

[114] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[115] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/55/25), annex I, decision SS.VI/3.

[116] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[117] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[118] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

*Recalling also* Agenda 21,[119] in particular its chapter 15 on the conservation of biological diversity, chapter 16 on the environmentally sound management of biotechnology and related chapters,

*Having considered* the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity as submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session,[120]

*Emphasizing* the importance of public education and awareness for the implementation of the Convention at all levels,

*Noting* the recommendation of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its fifth meeting that the date of the International Day for Biological Diversity be changed to give it greater visibility,

*Deeply concerned* about the continuing loss of the world's biological diversity, and, on the basis of the provisions of the Convention, reaffirming the commitment to the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and technologies, and by appropriate funding,

*Recognizing* the contribution of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles, and women within those communities, to the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources,

*Noting* the continuing dialogue in the Committee on Trade and Environment of the World Trade Organization on the provisions of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights,[121]

*Encouraged* by the work carried out to date under the Convention, and satisfied that most States and one regional economic integration organization are parties to the Convention,

*Recognizing* the importance of the adoption by the Conference of the Parties, in its decision EM-I/3 of 29 January 2000,[122] of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the subsequent signature of the Protocol by seventy-five parties to the Convention,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Government of Kenya for hosting the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, held at Nairobi from 15 to 26 May 2000,

*Also expressing its appreciation* to the Government of Spain for hosting the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on article 8 (*j*) of the Convention regarding the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, held at Seville from 27 to 31 March 2000,

*Welcoming* the generous offer of the Government of France, accepted by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting, to host the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol, held at Montpellier from 11 to 15 December 2000,

*Welcoming also* the generous offer of the Government of the Netherlands, accepted by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting, to host the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the second meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol, which will be held at The Hague from 8 to 26 April 2002,

*Urging* the parties to the Convention to undertake thorough preparations to advance progress at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties,

*Recalling* its invitation to the Executive Secretary of the Convention to report to the General Assembly on the results of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties,

1. *Urges* Member States that have not joined the Convention on Biological Diversity[118] to become parties to it, without further delay;

2. *Calls upon* Member States that are parties to the Convention to sign and ratify the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety[122] as soon as possible;

3. *Takes note* of the results of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held at Nairobi from 15 to 26 May 2000;[123]

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of the decision of the Conference of the Parties on the adoption of its programme of work and the thematic approach to guide its work in the development of the Convention for the foreseeable future,

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[119] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. .93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[120] See A/55/211.

[121] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

[122] See UNEP/CBD/ ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

[123] See UNEP/CBD/COP/5/23 and Corr.1, annex III.

including its in-depth consideration of ecosystems and other cross-cutting issues;[123]

5. *Notes* the decision by the Conference of the Parties to undertake a limited number of pilot scientific assessments in preparation for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to be involved in the proposed millennium ecosystem assessment, and its request to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to identify opportunities for collaboration;

6. *Stresses* the importance of capacity-building activities, especially in developing countries, for the implementation of the Convention and the Cartagena Protocol, particularly the development of systems to allow parties to implement the Convention and the Protocol, and encourages developed countries to provide adequate support for those activities;

7. *Urges* developed countries to facilitate the transfer of environmentally sound biotechnology for the effective implementation of the Cartagena Protocol, in accordance with relevant articles of the Convention and the Protocol;

8. *Decides* to proclaim 22 May, the date of the adoption of the text of the Convention, as the International Day for Biological Diversity henceforth;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Executive Secretary of the Convention to take all steps necessary to ensure the successful observance of the International Day for Biological Diversity;

10. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the Parties to contribute to the ten-year review of the implementation of Agenda 21[119] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[124] and decides to invite the Executive Secretary and, if appropriate, the President of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to report to it at its relevant session;

11. *Recognizes* the importance of the rapid development and implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Convention, and encourages States parties to provide to the Executive Secretary, in accordance with decision V/20 adopted by the Conference of the Parties,[123] their detailed views on the matter as soon as possible;

12. *Welcomes* the collaborative work between the Convention and related conventions, in particular the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat, adopted at Ramsar, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 2 February 1971;[125]

13. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the Parties regarding its programme of work for forest biological diversity, and encourages the parties to cooperate with the United Nations Forum on Forests, in particular with regard to respecting, preserving and maintaining the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles, in accordance with article 8 (*j*) and related provisions of the Convention;

14. *Takes note* of the fact that the provisions of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights[121] and the Convention are interrelated, in particular with respect to intellectual property rights and relevant provisions of the Convention, and invites the World Trade Organization and the World Intellectual Property Organization, within their respective mandates, to explore this relationship, taking into account the ongoing work in other relevant forums and bearing in mind decision V/26 B of the Conference of the Parties;[123]

15. *Encourages* Member States that are members of the World Trade Organization to support the request by the Executive Secretary for observer status at the meetings of the Council for the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and the Committee on Agriculture;

16. *Welcomes* the progress made in implementing cooperation with the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[126] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[127] and encourages further cooperation;

17. *Stresses* the need to enhance complementarities between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in order to ensure that their activities are mutually supportive;

18. *Invites* all funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to cooperate with the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the implementation of the programme of work;

19. *Notes* the work of the Global Environment Facility in assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the implementation of the Convention, and urges the Facility to enhance its support for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity within the context of national sustainable development, and, within its mandate, in identifying and coordinating additional financial resources from bilateral and international organizations as well as the private sector for this purpose;

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[124] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[125] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 996, No. 14583.

[126] Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[127] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

20. *Welcomes* the initiatives of the Facility in the area of capacity development to assess the capacity-building needs and priorities of developing countries, relating to the conservation of biological diversity, and to develop a strategy and implement a multi-year plan for responding to such needs and priorities, and calls upon other multilateral and bilateral organizations to cooperate with the Facility in strengthening the capacity of developing countries for the conservation and management of biodiversity;

21. *Notes* the efforts that the Facility is making towards developing programmes for assisting developing countries in capacity-building activities relating to the Cartagena Protocol;

22. *Calls upon* States parties to the Conventiony to settle urgently any arrears and to pay their contributions in full and in a timely manner so as to ensure continuity in the cash flows required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat;

23. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention to report to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention;

24. *Requests* the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development when setting the dates of meetings of the conferences of the parties so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

## RESOLUTION 55/202

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/582/Add.4, para. 13)[128]

### 55/202. Further implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 51/183 of 16 December 1996, 52/202 of 18 December 1997, 53/189 of 15 December 1998 and 54/224 of 22 December 1999,

*Recognizing* that small island developing States, given their size, limited resources, geographic dispersion and, in most cases, isolation from markets, face special challenges and unique vulnerabilities of an environmental and economic nature in their efforts to achieve sustainable development and the need to enhance their capacity to effectively benefit from the opportunities presented by trade liberalization and globalization, while minimizing their negative impact on small island developing States,

*Recalling* the Declaration of Barbados[129] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[130] of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

*Recalling also* the Declaration[131] and review document[131] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[132]

*Having also considered* the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its tenth session,[133]

*Taking note* of the report of the second Alliance of Small Island States workshop on climate change negotiations, management and strategy, which was held at Apia, Samoa, from 26 July to 4 August 2000,[134]

*Noting* the significant efforts to implement the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and the need for regional and global institutions to continue to supplement the efforts being made at the national level, including through effective financial support,

*Acknowledging* the efforts of small island developing States to convene, in cooperation with the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, a series of capacity-building workshops targeted at issues of specific relevance to small island developing States,

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[128] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[129] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[130] Ibid., annex II.

[131] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[132] A/55/185.

[133] TD/390.

[134] A/C.2/55/3.

*Welcoming* the offer of the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis to host the first Alliance of Small Island States workshop on the Cartegena Protocol on Biosafety[135] in December 2000 and the offer of the Government of Cyprus to host the third Alliance of Small Island States workshop on climate change, energy and preparations for the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in January 2001,

*Bearing in mind* the continued need for the financing of projects that were presented within the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action, inter alia, at the meeting of representatives of donor countries and small island developing States held in New York from 24 to 26 February 1999,[136]

*Noting with appreciation* the contribution by some donor countries towards further implementation of the Programme of Action, and underlining the need for those efforts to be intensified and supplemented by other donor countries and agencies,

*Noting* the work being undertaken by the Committee for Development Policy and other international organizations on a vulnerability index, which incorporates, inter alia, environmental and economic vulnerability factors,

1. *Reiterates* the urgent need for strong and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[130] and of the Declaration[131] and review document[131] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session;

2. *Welcomes* efforts at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement the Programme of Action;

3. *Invites* the relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations system and the regional commissions and organizations, within their respective mandates, to reflect measures for the implementation of the Programme of Action in their programmes;

4. *Invites* the relevant agencies within the United Nations system, in the preparation of the ten-year review of the progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to identify measures that would ensure the effective implementation of the Programme of Action;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, in particular the donor community, as well as the relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations system and the regional commissions and organizations, to support the efforts of small island developing States in the further implementation of the Programme of Action through, inter alia, the provision of adequate technical and financial resources, taking into account the Declaration and review document for further implementation and effective follow-up;

6. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system to assist small island developing States in their efforts to enhance their capacities to effectively utilize the benefits and mitigate the implications of globalization, including by bridging the digital divide and fostering digital opportunities in the field of information and communication technologies;

7. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to participate fully in the activities identified for the further implementation of and effective follow-up to the Programme of Action;

8. *Urges* all relevant organizations to finalize, as a matter of urgency, the work on the development of a vulnerability index;

9. *Welcomes* the strengthened Small Island Developing States Unit, and requests the Secretary-General to consider ways to further strengthen the Unit, inter alia, by establishing the Small Island Developing States Information Network within the Unit and by assisting small island developing States with, inter alia, project implementation advice and assistance in the identification of short and long-term capacity needs through coordination with regional and international institutions, and to make proposals in that regard;

10. *Welcomes* the contributions of Germany, Italy, Japan and Norway to the strengthening of the Small Island Developing States Unit, and encourages other Member States to make contributions, in particular, in support of the Small Island Developing States Information Network;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/203

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/582/Add.4, para. 13)[137]

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[135] See UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

[136] See A/S-22/4.

[137] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

## 55/203. Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[138] and the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados[139] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[140] as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

*Recalling* the Declaration[141] and review document[141] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,

*Taking into account* all other relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, including resolution 54/225 of 22 December 1999,

*Reaffirming* the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[142] and emphasizing the fundamental character of the Convention,

*Conscious* that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and that they need to be considered as a whole,

*Recalling* the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983, which contains the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,[143]

*Welcoming* the adoption, on 16 October 1999 in Aruba, of the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities[144] to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region,

*Welcoming also* the entry into force, on 18 June 2000, of the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife[144] to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region,

*Recalling* the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

*Considering* that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile, structurally weak and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

*Recognizing* that the Caribbean Sea has a unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystem,

*Emphasizing* that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change and variability, associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño/Southern Oscillation phenomenon and the increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes,

*Welcoming* the establishment of the working group on the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon within the framework of the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction,

*Bearing in mind* the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

*Recognizing* the Caribbean Environment Outlook process currently being undertaken by the United Nations Environment Programme, and welcoming the support being provided by the Caribbean Environment Programme of the United Nations Environment Programme towards its implementation,

*Acknowledging* that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of the resources,

*Noting* the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

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[138] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

[139] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[140] Ibid., annex II.

[141] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[142] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

[143] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

[144] See www.cep.unep.org/law.

*Taking note* of resolution GC(44)/RES/17 of 22 September 2000 of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on safety of transport of radioactive materials,[145]

*Mindful* of the diversity and dynamic interaction and competition among socio-economic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

*Mindful also* of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the Caribbean Sea area and, in so doing, to promote an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

*Noting* the efforts of the Caribbean countries, within the framework of the Association of Caribbean States, to develop further support for their concept of the Caribbean Sea as an area of special importance, in the context of sustainable development and in conformity with the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[142]

*Cognizant* of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and its importance to the heritage, the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area, and the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

1. *Recognizes* the importance of adopting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development;

2. *Encourages* the further promotion of an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development, in accordance with the recommendations contained in resolution 54/225, as well as the provisions of Agenda 21,[146] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[140] the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly[141] and the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and in conformity with relevant international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[142]

3. *Also encourages* the continued efforts of the Caribbean countries to develop further an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development and, in this regard, to continue to develop regional cooperation in the management of their ocean affairs in the context of sustainable development, to address such issues as land-based pollution, pollution from ships and the diversity and dynamic interaction of, and competition among, socio-economic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources;

4. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, from illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

5. *Calls upon* all relevant States to take the necessary steps to bring into force, and to support the implementation of, the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities,[144] in order to protect the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from land-based pollution and degradation;

6. *Calls upon* all States to become contracting parties to relevant international agreements to promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution and degradation from ships;

7. *Invites* intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system to continue efforts to assist Caribbean countries to become parties to the relevant conventions and protocols and to implement them effectively;

8. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, including the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to support actively the above-mentioned approach;

9. *Calls upon* Member States to improve as a matter of priority their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or of an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-seventh session, under the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account the views expressed by relevant regional organizations.

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[145] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fourth Regular Session, 18–22 September 2000* (GC(44)/RES/DEC(2000).

[146] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

## RESOLUTION 55/204

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/582/Add.5, para. 8)[147]

### 55/204. Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/223 of 22 December 1999 and other relevant resolutions relating to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[148]

*Noting with satisfaction* that the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention was held at Recife, Brazil, from 15 to 26 November 1999,

*Expressing its deep appreciation* to the Government of Brazil for the generous manner in which it hosted and provided facilities for the third session of the Conference of the Parties,

*Acknowledging* that desertification and drought are problems of a global dimension in that they affect all regions of the world and that joint action of the international community is needed to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought, including the integration of strategies for poverty eradication,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[149]

1. *Welcomes* the convening of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, at Bonn, Germany, from 11 to 22 December 2000;

2. *Also welcomes* the very large number of ratifications of the Convention, and calls upon all remaining countries that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

3. *Further welcomes* the progress made in producing a draft additional regional implementation annex to the Convention for the countries of Central and Eastern Europe,[150] and invites the Conference of the Parties to consider adopting it at its fourth session;

4. *Stresses* the importance of a coherent and timely implementation of the provisions of the Convention at all levels, including the general provisions and obligations of all States parties, in accordance with the provisions of part II of the Convention;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the steps being taken by affected developing country parties to the Convention, with the assistance of international organizations and bilateral development partners, to implement the Convention, and the efforts being made to promote the participation of all actors of society in the elaboration of national action programmes to combat desertification, and in this regard encourages countries to cooperate at the subregional and regional levels, as appropriate;

6. *Welcomes* the strengthened cooperation between the secretariat of the Convention and the Global Mechanism, and encourages further efforts in this regard for the effective implementation of the Convention;

7. *Also welcomes* the financial support already provided on a voluntary basis by some countries, and urges Governments, the private sector and all relevant organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to make or continue to make voluntary contributions to the Global Mechanism to enable it to implement its mandate effectively and fully;

8. *Calls upon* the Global Environment Facility to continue to enhance, within its mandate, its ongoing support for land degradation activities in developing countries;

9. *Welcomes* the decision of the Council of the Global Environment Facility, at its meeting held from 1 to 3 November 2000, to request the Chief Executive Officer to explore the best options for enhancing the support of the Facility in assisting affected countries, especially those in Africa, in implementing the Convention, taking into account the third replenishment;[151]

10. *Calls upon* the Global Environment Facility and its implementing agencies to strengthen their cooperation with the Global Mechanism and the secretariat of the Convention;

11. *Encourages* the parties to the Convention to provide the necessary support to the secretariat so as to enable it to discharge effectively its responsibilities to the Convention;

12. *Welcomes* decision 2000/23 of 29 September 2000 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme aimed at developing cooperation between the secretariat of the Convention and the United Nations Development Programme in order to mainstream activities to combat desertification at the national, subregional and regional levels;[152]

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[147] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[148] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[149] A/55/331.

[150] ICCD/COP(3)/16, annex.

[151] See ICCD/COP(4)/11/Add.1, decision 9/COP.4, para. 2.

[152] See DP/2001/1, para. 231.

13. *Urges* all parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to pay promptly and in full their contributions to the core budget of the Convention so as to ensure continuity in the cash flow required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies, the secretariat and the Global Mechanism;

14. *Calls upon* Governments, multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, regional economic integration organizations and all other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to contribute generously to the General Fund, the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties;[153]

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make a provision in the proposed calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2002–2003 for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, including the sixth ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties and meetings of its subsidiary bodies;

16. *Invites* the Conference of the Parties to contribute towards the preparation of the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of Agenda 21[154] and other outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, inter alia, by elaborating proposals, including options for funding, aimed at enhancing the implementation of the Convention at the national, subregional and regional levels, and requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its tenth session to this end;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, as well as on the outcome of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa".

## RESOLUTION 55/205

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/582/Add.6, para. 6)[155]

## 55/205. World Solar Programme 1996–2005

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998 and 54/215 of 22 December 1999 on the World Solar Programme 1996–2005,

*Recalling also* resolution 14 concerning the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-ninth session in November 1997,[156]

*Reaffirming* that the convening at Harare on 16 and 17 September 1996 of the World Solar Summit, at which the Harare Declaration on Solar Energy and Sustainable Development[157] was adopted and preparation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005[158] approved, was a step in pursuance of the implementation of Agenda 21,[159] which is a multifaceted and, at the same time, fundamental programme of action for achieving sustainable development,

*Recalling* resolution 19 adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirtieth session in November 1999,[160] concerning the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996–2005, which constitutes one of the major programmes of universal value of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005,

*Reiterating* that mutually supportive efforts at the national and international levels are imperative in the pursuit of sustainable development, which includes the provision of financial resources and the transfer of technology for the application of cost-effective energy and the wider use of environment-friendly, renewable energies,

*Acknowledging* that the General Assembly continues to play an important role in promoting the World Solar Programme 1996–2005,

*Acknowledging also* that the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council play a pivotal role as forums for the discussions on new and renewable sources of energy and sustainable development,

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[153] *ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1 and Corr.1, decision 2/COP.1, annex, paras.* 7–11.

[154] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[155] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[156] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-ninth Session, Paris, 21 October–12 November 1997*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*.

[157] A/53/395, annex, sect. II.

[158] Ibid., annex, sect. V.D.

[159] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[160] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirtieth Session, Paris, 26 October–17 November 1999*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*.

*Expressing its appreciation* of the continued efforts of the Secretary-General in bringing the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 to the attention of relevant sources of funding and technical assistance,

*Calling* for further action to ensure that the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 is fully integrated into the mainstream of the efforts of the United Nations system towards attaining the objective of sustainable development,

*Emphasizing* that the achievement of more substantive results in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 will require the active involvement of all concerned parties, including Governments, multilateral funding agencies and relevant bodies within the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programmme 1996–2005;[161]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the role that the World Solar Commission continues to play in the mobilization of international support and assistance for the implementation of many of the national high-priority projects on renewable sources of energy included in the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, many of which are being executed with national funding;

3. *Notes* that although significant financial support has been provided by some developed countries that are Members of the United Nations and some intergovernmental organizations, within and outside the United Nations system, in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, more action still needs to be taken in this regard;

4. *Invites* the international community to support, as appropriate, including by providing financial resources, the efforts of developing countries to move towards sustainable patterns of energy production and consumption;

5. *Recognizes* that rural energy services, including their financing, should be designed to maximize local ownership, as appropriate;

6. *Reiterates its call upon* all relevant funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to support, as appropriate, the efforts being made for the development of the renewable energy sector in developing countries on the basis of environment-friendly, renewable sources of energy of demonstrated viability, while taking fully into account the development structure of energy-based economies of developing countries, and to assist in the attainment of the levels of investment necessary to expand energy supplies beyond urban areas;

7. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote the mobilization of adequate technical assistance and funding and to enhance the effectiveness and the full utilization of existing international funds for the effective implementation of national and regional high-priority projects in the area of renewable sources of energy;

8. *Emphasizes* the need to intensify research and development in support of sustainable energy development, which will require increased commitment on the part of all stakeholders, including Governments and the private sector, to deploy financial and manpower resources for accelerating research efforts;

9. *Recognizes* that the wider use of available renewable energy technologies requires the diffusion of available technologies on a global scale, including through North-South and South-South cooperation;

10. *Takes note* of the decision of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization regarding the contribution of the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996–2005 in attaining the objective of sustainable development,[160] and encourages the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in this context, to mobilize resources, both human and financial, as mandated, to ensure the effective implementation of the Programme and make efforts to promote public awareness in all Member States in this regard, with the support of international, regional and national institutions, both public and private;

11. *Invites* the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make effective the implementation of the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996–2005 in the different regions and to strengthen the implementation of its African chapter;

12. *Encourages* the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Energy to continue its efforts to ensure that the work of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 is fully integrated into the mainstream of the efforts of the United Nations system to achieve the objectives of sustainable development and to coordinate the contributions of all relevant organizations of the United Nations system to the consideration of the theme of energy by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its ninth session, to be held in 2001, and at the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in 2002;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and in cooperation with the United Nations

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[161] A/55/91.

Development Programme, the Global Environment Facility, the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant organizations, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on concrete action being taken for the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the effective implementation of, and mobilization of resources for, the World Solar Programme 1996–2005;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005".

## RESOLUTION 55/206

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/584, para. 18)[162]

### 55/206. United Nations University

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its previous resolutions on the United Nations University, including resolution 53/194 of 15 December 1998,

*Having considered* the report of the Council of the United Nations University,[163] as presented by the Rector of the University on 31 October 2000, and the report of the Secretary-General,[164]

*Bearing in mind* the need to continue to ensure a coordinated, system-wide approach to training and training-related research issues and to continue to pursue a coherent strategy for building on common fields of interest and complementarities among the various training and research institutions in the United Nations system,

*Expressing its deep appreciation* for the voluntary contributions made to date by Governments and other public and private entities in support of the University,

*Noting with satisfaction* that, since its creation twenty-five years ago, the University has developed a distinctive identity in the United Nations system and the international academic and scientific community,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Governing Council of the United Nations University of the "Strategic Plan, 2000: Advancing Knowledge for Human Security and Development", which has a programmatic focus on research, policy studies, capacity-building and dissemination of information in the two thematic areas of peace and governance and environment and sustainable development, in line with the priority concerns of the United Nations;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the steps taken by the Council and the Rector of the University to promote the work and the visibility of the University, in particular among Member States, the United Nations and its agencies, through such measures as organizing a series of public forums for the purpose of disseminating the results of its research, and requests them to further intensify such efforts;

3. *Welcomes* the contribution made by the University to the work of the United Nations, both in intergovernmental processes, including United Nations global conferences, and in analytical work, and requests the Rector to intensify his efforts to extend the policy studies programme of the University;

4. *Emphasizes* the continuing need of the University to strengthen the capacity of scholarly and scientific institutions in developing countries by extending its capacity-building programmes and through innovative partnerships and networking, involving the United Nations system, academic entities, professional associations, private sector bodies and other elements of civil society that will bring additional input to the work of the University;

5. *Welcomes* the progress made by the University in improving interaction and communication between the University and the rest of the United Nations system, noted in the report of the Secretary-General,[164] requests the Rector to intensify his efforts in this regard, and also requests the Secretary-General to encourage other bodies of the United Nations system to improve their interaction and communication with the University so that it may serve as a think tank for the system;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this connection, to continue his consideration of innovative measures to improve interaction and communication between the University and other relevant bodies of the United Nations system and, in the light of resolution 53/194, to ensure that the work of the University is taken into account in all relevant activities of the system so that the system may draw more extensively upon the work of the University, and to submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

7. *Welcomes* the progress made with regard to the participation of the University in the work of the Administrative

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[162] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Malta, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zambia.

[163] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 31* (A/55/31).

[164] A/55/412.

Committee on Coordination, and encourages the University to play an active role in this regard in order to better understand and respond to the needs of the United Nations system as it carries out its work;

8. *Also welcomes* the initiative taken by the University, together with the United Nations Office at Geneva, in bringing together United Nations research entities, and invites the Secretary-General to use those annual meetings to develop greater synergy among them, and between them and other bodies of the United Nations system;

9. *Takes note* of the important ongoing cooperation between the University and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in particular in the follow-up activities to the World Conference on Higher Education, held in Paris from 5 to 9 October 1998, the preparation of the *World Water Development Report* and the initiation of the programme on dialogue among civilizations;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of the creation of linkages, collaboration and cooperation with other research institutions and universities throughout the world, in particular in developing countries, in order to facilitate the exchange of information, experience and best practice so as to mainstream the perspective of developing countries in the activities of the University;

11. *Requests* the University to broaden the reach of its dissemination activities by using innovative methods, including new information and communication technologies, to ensure that the knowledge developed by the University is made available to all those to whom it may be of benefit;

12. *Requests* the Council and the Rector, taking into account the previous resolutions of the Assembly and the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the University,[165] to continue to make further efforts to ensure the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the activities of the University, as well as its financial transparency and accountability, to intensify efforts to augment its Endowment Fund and to find innovative ways to mobilize operating contributions and other programme and project support;

13. *Invites* the international community to make voluntary contributions to the University, including its research and training centres and programmes, and in particular to its Endowment Fund.

## RESOLUTION 55/207

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/584, para. 18)[166]

### 55/207. United Nations Staff College in Turin, Italy

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the decision taken by the Secretary-General in January 1996 to establish in Turin, Italy, the United Nations Staff College project for an initial period of five years,

*Recalling also* its resolution 54/228 of 22 December 1999,

*Reaffirming* the importance of a coordinated United Nations system-wide approach to research and training based on an effective coherent strategy and an effective division of labour among the relevant institutions and bodies,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General[167] and the report of the Independent Evaluation Team,[168]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the United Nations Staff College project, in particular with regard to strengthening the performance of the United Nations in the areas of economic and social development and international peace and security and in promoting a common United Nations management culture;

2. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to the International Labour Organization for the technical, logistical and administrative contributions provided by its International Training Centre in Turin;

3. *Decides* to establish the United Nations System Staff College, as at 1 January 2002 after the approval of its statute, as an institution for system-wide knowledge management, training and learning for the staff of the United Nations system, aimed, in particular, at the areas of economic

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[165] See A/53/392.

[166] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela.

[167] A/55/369.

[168] A/55/369/Add.1.

and social development, peace and security and internal management of the system;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue consultations on an urgent basis with the Administrative Committee on Coordination and relevant United Nations organizations and to submit, as early as possible, a final draft of the statute for the College, reflecting, as appropriate, the outcome of those consultations on functions, governance and funding for review and approval by the General Assembly, preferably at its fifty-fifth session;

5. *Decides* that, after the establishment of the Staff College, a biennial report should be submitted to the General Assembly on the work, activities and accomplishments of the College, including its collaboration with other relevant United Nations institutions.

## RESOLUTION 55/208

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/584, para. 18)[169]

### 55/208. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 49/125 of 19 December 1994, 50/121 of 20 December 1995, 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997, 53/195 of 15 December 1998 and 54/229 of 22 December 1999,

*Having considered* the reports of the Secretary-General[170] and the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,[171]

*Welcoming* the efforts made towards consolidation of the restructuring process of the Institute and the recent progress made by the Institute in its various programmes and activities, including the improved cooperation that has been established with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

*Noting* that contributions to the General Fund have not increased and that the participation of the developed countries in training programmes in New York and Geneva is increasing,

*Noting also* that the bulk of the resources contributed to the Institute are directed to the Special Purpose Grants Fund rather than to the General Fund, and stressing the need to address that unbalanced situation,

*Noting further* that the Institute receives no subsidy from the United Nations regular budget, that it provides training programmes to all Member States free of charge and that similar United Nations institutions based at Geneva are not charged rent or maintenance costs,

*Reiterating* that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of a coordinated, United Nations system-wide approach to research and training based on an effective coherent strategy and an effective division of labour among the relevant institutions and bodies;

2. *Also reaffirms* the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States and the relevance of training-related research activities undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

3. *Stresses* the need for the Institute to strengthen further its cooperation with other United Nations institutes and relevant national, regional and international institutes;

4. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other agencies and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes, and, in this context, underlines the need to develop further and to expand the scope of these partnerships, in particular at the country level;

5. *Welcomes also* the decisions taken so far by the Secretary-General to ensure continuity in the management of the Institute and to consider the proper grade for the post of Executive Director;

6. *Requests* the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research to intensify its efforts to attract experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the preparation of relevant training materials for the programmes and activities of the Institute, and stresses that the courses of the Institute should focus primarily on development issues;

7. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute, to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute;

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[169] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[170] A/55/510.

[171] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 14* (A/55/14).

8. *Calls upon* developed countries, which are increasingly participating in the training programmes conducted in New York and Geneva, to make contributions or consider increasing their contributions to the General Fund;

9. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees of the Institute to continue its efforts to resolve the critical financial situation of the Institute, in particular with a view to broadening its donor base and increasing the contributions made to the General Fund;

10. *Also encourages* the Board of Trustees to consider diversifying further the venues of the events organized by the Institute and to include the cities hosting regional commissions, in order to promote greater participation and reduce costs;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Institute and United Nations funds and programmes, to continue to explore ways and means of systematically utilizing the Institute in the execution of training and capacity-building programmes for the economic and social development of developing countries;

12. *Notes with appreciation* the services rendered by the Executive Director of the Institute in the light of the challenges emanating from the increased responsibilities encountered by his office;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider reclassifying the rental rates and maintenance costs charged to the Institute with a view to alleviating its current financial difficulties, which are aggravated by the current practice of charging commercial rates, taking into account that other organizations affiliated with the United Nations enjoy such privileges;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/209

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/585, para. 11),[172] by a recorded vote of 147 to 2, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Fiji, Marshall Islands, Nauru

### 55/209. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/230 of 22 December 1999, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/31 of 28 July 2000,

*Reaffirming* the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

*Guided* by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

*Reaffirming* the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[173] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

*Expressing its concern* at the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

*Aware* of the additional detrimental economic and social impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources,

*Reaffirming* the need for an immediate resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, and the principle of land for peace, and for the achievement of a final settlement on all tracks,

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[172] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Malta, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[173] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

1. *Takes note* of the report transmitted by the Secretary-General;[174]

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land and water;

3. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, to cause loss or depletion of or to endanger the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

4. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, loss or depletion of, or danger to, their natural resources, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with in the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

## RESOLUTION 55/210

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/586 and Corr.1, para. 9)[175]

### 55/210. Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), including the initiative to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it established the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, as well as its resolution 48/183 of 21 December 1993, by which it proclaimed 1996 the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty,

*Recalling also* its resolution 50/107 of 20 December 1995 on the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and the proclamation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), as well as the declarations and programmes of action of the major United Nations conferences and summits of the 1990s as they relate to the eradication of poverty,

*Expressing its deep concern* that the number of people living in extreme poverty continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected group, in particular in African countries and the least developed countries,

*Recognizing* that, while the rate of poverty in some countries has been reduced, some developing countries and disadvantaged groups are being marginalized and others are at risk of being marginalized and effectively excluded from the benefits of globalization, resulting in increased income disparity among and within countries, thereby constraining efforts to eradicate poverty,

*Also recognizing* that for the poverty eradication strategy to be effective it is imperative for developing countries to be integrated into the world economy and equitably share the benefits of globalization,

*Bearing in mind* the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[176] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[177] and the Political Declaration[178] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 to 30 June 2000, as well as the objectives of the World Food Summit, held at Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996,

*Bearing in mind also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,[179] particularly section III, "Development and poverty eradication", and its emphasis on solidarity as a fundamental value in international relations in the twenty-first century,

*Recalling* the commitment made by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit to eradicate extreme poverty, in particular the commitment to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

*Recognizing* that, while it is the primary responsibility of States to attain social development, the international community should support the efforts of the developing countries to eradicate poverty and to ensure basic social protection,

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[174] A/55/84-E/2000/16, annex.

[175] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[176] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[177] Ibid., annex II.

[178] Resolution S-24/2, annex, sect. I.

[179] See resolution 55/2.

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[180]

1. *Stresses* that the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty should contribute to achieving the targets of halving, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, through decisive national action and strengthened international cooperation;

2. *Calls* for strengthened efforts at all levels to implement fully and effectively the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and all agreements and commitments adopted at the major United Nations conferences and summits organized since 1990, as well as the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[179] as they relate to the eradication of poverty, with a view to achieving tangible results;

3. *Stresses* the importance of tackling the root causes of poverty and the necessity of meeting the basic needs of all, and, in this context, emphasizes the fundamental role in the eradication of poverty of strong and sustained economic growth that favours the poor, creates substantive expansion in productive opportunities and employment, increases incomes, promotes equitable income distribution and minimizes environmental degradation;

4. *Reaffirms* that the causes of poverty should be addressed in an integrated way, taking into account the importance of sectoral strategies in such areas as education, development of human resources, health, human settlements, rural development, productive employment, population, environment, freshwater, food security and migration, and the specific needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, in such a way as to increase opportunities and choices for people living in poverty and to enable them to build and to strengthen their assets so as to achieve social and economic development;

5. *Stresses* the importance of increasing access to and control by the poor over resources, including land, skills, knowledge, capital and social connections, and of improving access for all to basic social services;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of the adoption of appropriate policy responses to the challenges of globalization at the national level, in particular by pursuing sound and stable domestic policies, including sound macroeconomic and social policies, in order to realize the objective of the eradication of poverty;

7. *Reaffirms* that, within the context of overall action for the eradication of poverty, special attention should be given to the multidimensional nature of poverty and the national and international conditions and policies that are conducive to its eradication, fostering, inter alia, the social and economic integration of people living in poverty, thus empowering them to participate in decision-making with regard to the policies that affect them, the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development, bearing in mind the relationship between all human rights and development, and an efficient, transparent and accountable public service and administration;

8. *Also reaffirms*, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, that success in meeting the objectives of development and poverty eradication depends, inter alia, on good governance within each country; it also depends on good governance at the international level, on transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and on commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

9. *Calls upon* all countries to formulate and implement outcome-oriented national strategies and programmes, setting time-bound targets for poverty reduction, including the target of halving, by 2015, the proportion of people living in extreme poverty, which requires strengthening of national action and international cooperation;

10. *Urges* the strengthening of international assistance to developing countries in their efforts to alleviate poverty, including by creating an enabling environment that would facilitate the integration of developing countries into the world economy, improving their market access, facilitating the flow of financial resources and implementing fully and effectively all initiatives already launched regarding debt relief for developing countries, and emphasizes that the international community should consider further measures that would lead to effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries so that they can share equally in the benefits of globalization, cope with its negative effects, avoid being marginalized in the process of globalization and achieve full integration into the world economy;

11. *Reaffirms* that all Governments and the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes aimed at the eradication of poverty, at both the national and international levels, and encourages the use of gender analysis as a tool for the integration of a gender dimension into planning the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* to the developed countries that have agreed to and have reached the target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance, and calls upon the developed countries that have not yet done so to strengthen their efforts to achieve the agreed target as soon as possible and, where agreed, within

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[180] A/55/407

that target, to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of their gross national product for the least developed countries;

13. *Reaffirms* the role of United Nations funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, in assisting the national efforts of developing countries, including in the eradication of poverty, and the need for their funding in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

14. *Welcomes favourably* the proposal submitted regarding the establishment of a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication, which will contribute to the eradication of poverty and the promotion of social and human development in the poorest regions of the world, and requests the Secretary-General to undertake the necessary consultations with Member States and all relevant stakeholders on this issue, bearing in mind the voluntary nature of the contributions, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

15. *Emphasizes* the role of microcredit as an important anti-poverty tool that promotes the generation of production and self-employment and empowers people living in poverty, especially women, and therefore encourages Governments to adopt policies that support the development of microcredit institutions and their capacities, and calls upon the international community, in particular the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and international and regional financial institutions involved in the eradication of poverty, to support and explore the incorporation of the microcredit approach into their programmes and the further development, as appropriate, of other microfinance instruments;

16. *Calls upon* the developed countries, by means of intensified and effective cooperation with developing countries, to promote capacity-building and facilitate access to and transfer of technologies and corresponding knowledge, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries, by identifying and implementing practical steps to ensure the achievement of progress in this regard and to assist developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in an era influenced in large measure by technology;

17. *Emphasizes* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education, particularly basic education, and training, in particular for girls, in the empowerment of those living in poverty, and, in this context, welcomes the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[181] including the reconfirmation of the mandate of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to coordinate Education for All partners and maintain their collective momentum, and invites the organs and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to promote the inclusion of education in anti-poverty strategies;

18. *Recalls* the commitments of the United Nations conferences and summits to eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005 and to promote universal primary education in all countries by 2015, and, in this regard, urges Member States to take immediate measures to remove obstacles to young girls' school attendance and to reduce drop-out rates;

19. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations system to assign priority to the eradication of poverty and to enhance coordination, and, in this regard, encourages the organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and other partners in development to continue to support all Member States in carrying forward their own strategy for the achievement of the objectives of the Decade;

20. *Reaffirms* the importance of agreeing on a mutual commitment of interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of official development assistance and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes, and welcomes the efforts made to implement the 20/20 initiative,[182] which emphasizes that promoting access for all to basic social services is essential for sustainable and equitable development and is an integral part of the strategy for the eradication of poverty;

21. *Recognizes* the devastating effect of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) epidemic on human development, economic growth and poverty reduction efforts in many countries, in particular African countries, and urges Governments and the international community to give urgent priority to the HIV/AIDS crisis, in particular addressing the special needs of developing countries by strengthening the relevant commitments through partnerships as agreed by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session, and, in this regard, welcomes the convening of a special session of the General Assembly to review and address the problem of HIV/AIDS in all its aspects;

22. *Urges* the implementation of the enhanced programme of debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries without delay and the cancellation of all official bilateral debts of those countries, in the context of poverty eradication, in

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[181] See *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000*, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Paris, 2000.

[182] See A/51/140, annex, and A/53/684, annex.

return for their making demonstrable commitments to poverty reduction as part of their overall development strategy;

23. *Recognizes* the difficulties of heavily indebted middle-income developing countries in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations, and notes the worsening situation in some of them in the context, inter alia, of greater liquidity constraints, which may require debt treatment through various national and international measures designed to assist those countries to make their debt burden sustainable in the long term and to combat poverty effectively;

24. *Encourages* the continuing examination in all relevant intergovernmental forums of ways and means to integrate poverty reduction objectives and strategies into discussions on international financial and development issues;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the follow-up to the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to submit to it at its fifty-sixth session a comprehensive report containing an evaluation of progress made towards achieving the goals of the Decade, as well as in the achievement of the 2015 targets on poverty reduction, and recommendations for further action to achieve the 2015 targets, including the identification of resource requirements and possible sources of funding;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)".

## RESOLUTION 55/211

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/587, para. 14)[183]

### 55/211. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/5 of 8 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization,

*Recalling also* that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature,

*Recalling further* the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

*Bearing in mind* that the Charter signed at the summit meeting at Yalta, Ukraine, on 5 June 1998, which transformed the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization into a regional economic organization with a legal identity on the international scene,[184] and the Istanbul Summit Declaration, adopted on 17 November 1999 by the heads of State or Government of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization,[184] confirmed the commitment of the Organization to the promotion of effective economic, social and democratic reforms in the region by application of the pragmatic concept that economic cooperation is an effective confidence-building measure,

*Convinced* that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the Istanbul Summit Declaration adopted on 17 November 1999 by the heads of State or Government of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization[184] and of the desirability expressed therein of strengthening cooperation between the United Nations Secretariat and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to undertake consultations with the Secretary-General of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, with a view to promoting cooperation and coordination between the two Secretariats;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in order to initiate consultations and programmes with that Organization and its associated institutions for the attainment of their objectives;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "Cooperation between the

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[183] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Fiji, France (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Georgia, Greece, Israel, Malta, Morocco, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine.

[184] See www.bsec.gov.tr.

United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization".

## RESOLUTION 55/212

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/587, para. 14)[185]

### 55/212. Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998 and 54/231 of 22 December 1999,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted on 8 September 2000,[186]

*Taking note* of the Plan of Action adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its tenth session, held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000,[187]

*Taking note also* of the Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted at the South Summit of the Group of 77, held at Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000,[188]

*Taking note further* of the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2000 of the Economic and Social Council, held in New York from 5 to 7 July 2000,[189]

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/29 of 28 July 2000, in which the Council called for the establishment of a United Nations information and communication technologies task force,

*Taking note also* of the report of the Secretary-General,[190]

*Recognizing* the challenges and opportunities of globalization and interdependence,

*Expressing concern* about the marginalization of a large number of developing countries from the benefits of globalization, the additional vulnerability of those developing countries that are integrating into the world economy and the general accentuation of the income and technological gap between developed and developing countries, as well as within countries,

*Recognizing* that globalization and interdependence are opening new opportunities through trade, investment and capital flows and advances in technology, including information technology, for the growth of the world economy, development and the improvement of living standards around the world, and recognizing also that some countries have made progress in successfully adapting to the changes and have benefited from globalization,

*Recognizing also* the importance of appropriate policy responses at the national level by all countries to the challenges of globalization, in particular by pursuing sound macroeconomic and social policies, noting the need for support from the international community for the efforts of the least developed countries, in particular, to improve their institutional and management capacities, and recognizing further that all countries should pursue policies conducive to economic growth and to promoting a favourable global economic environment,

*Stressing* that such national macroeconomic and social policies can yield better results with international support and with an enabling international economic environment,

*Emphasizing* the need to address those imbalances and asymmetries in international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have a negative impact on development prospects for developing countries, with a view to minimizing those impacts,

*Noting with serious concern* that a large number of developing countries have not yet been able to reap the full benefits of the existing multilateral trading system, and underlining the importance of promoting the integration of developing countries into the world economy so as to enable them to take the fullest possible advantage of the trading opportunities arising from globalization and liberalization,

*Stressing* that the process of reform for a strengthened and stable international financial architecture should be based on broad participation in a genuine multilateral approach, involving all members of the international community, to ensure that the diverse needs and interests of all countries are adequately represented,

*Underlining* the urgent need to mitigate the negative consequences of globalization and interdependence for all developing countries, including landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and, in particular, African countries and the least developed countries,

*Reiterating* that the United Nations, as a universal forum, is in a unique position to achieve international cooperation in addressing the challenges of promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence, including, in particular, promoting a more equitable sharing of the benefits of globalization,

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[185] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[186] See resolution 55/2.

[187] TD/390, part II.

[188] A/55/74, annexes I and II.

[189] A/55/3, chap. III, para. 17. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3.*

[190] A/55/381.

1. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence;

2. *Re-emphasizes* the urgency of coherent action by the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, as appropriate, along with the action of Governments, to promote equitable and broad sharing in the benefits of globalization, taking into account the specific vulnerabilities, concerns and needs of developing countries;

3. *Calls* for the effective addressing of globalization through, inter alia, making the decision-making process of international economic and financial policy more participatory, especially with regard to developing countries, the integrated consideration of trade, finance, investment, technology transfer and developmental issues by the relevant international institutions, the continuation of a wide range of reforms in the international financial system and further progress towards liberalization and enhanced market access in areas and for products of particular interest to developing countries, and, to this end, also calls for coherence and close cooperation among the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization;

4. *Calls upon* all countries, in particular the major developed economies, to enhance coherence among their financial, investment, trade and development cooperation policies, with a view to enhancing the development prospects of developing countries;

5. *Stresses* the importance, at the national level, of maintaining sound macroeconomic policies and developing effective institutional and regulatory frameworks and human resources, so as to realize the mutually reinforcing objectives of poverty eradication and development, including through national poverty reduction strategies;

6. *Urges* the international community to promote international development cooperation aimed at enhancing growth, stability, equity and the participation of developing countries in the globalizing world economy;

7. *Encourages* developing countries to continue to pursue appropriate development policies to promote economic development and poverty eradication, and, in this regard, invites the international community to pursue strategies that support those policies through continued efforts to address the problems of market access, persistent external debt, transfer of resources, financial vulnerability and declining terms of trade;

8. *Strongly urges* the international community to take all necessary and appropriate measures, including support for structural and macroeconomic reform, foreign direct investment, enhanced official development assistance, the search for a durable solution to the external debt problem, market access, capacity-building and the dissemination of knowledge and technology, in order to achieve the sustainable development of Africa and to promote the participation of all African countries in the global economy;

9. *Reaffirms its resolve* to give greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the United Nations and thereby to enhance opportunities and offset the negative economic and social consequences of globalization;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Trade Centre and other multilateral and bilateral efforts to help developing countries, including landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and, in particular, African countries and the least developed countries, in addressing their specific concerns within the globalizing economy, in particular through technology-related assistance in the fields of trade and policy, in the improvement of trade efficiency and policies and trade in services, and in electronic commerce;

11. *Stresses* the need for good governance within each country as well as at the international level;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of recognizing and addressing the specific concerns of countries with economies in transition so as to help them to benefit from globalization, with a view to their full integration into the world economy;

13. *Emphasizes also* the technology-led dimension of globalization and the need to promote universal access to knowledge and information as well as the need to strive to bridge the digital divide and to bring information and communication technologies to the service of development and all the peoples of the world so as to enable the developing countries and the countries with economies in transition to benefit effectively from globalization by full and effective integration into the emerging global information network;

14. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, in this regard, to continue the ongoing consultations on the establishment of a United Nations information and communication technologies task force, and looks forward to the submission to the Economic and Social Council of the report requested by the Council in its resolution 2000/29;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant organizations, an analytical report on the effect of increasing linkages and interdependencies among trade, finance, knowledge, technology and investment on growth and development in the context of globalization, containing action-oriented recommendations, including on appropriate development strategies at both the national and international levels, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence".

## RESOLUTION 55/213

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/588, para. 9)[191]

### 55/213. Preparations for the substantive preparatory process and the high-level international intergovernmental event

*The General Assembly,*

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Preparatory Committee for the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development on its organizational and first sessions,[192]

*Welcoming* the continuing progress made in the consultations with the major institutional stakeholders with regard to their involvement in the process of financing for development,

*Encouraging* Governments and all other relevant stakeholders to consider taking concrete initiatives in support of the financing for development preparatory process and the high-level international intergovernmental event, within the framework of its substantive agenda,

*Welcoming* the regional consultative meetings being held to provide the regional input to the financing for development process, and encouraging the deepening of regional efforts in support of the financing for development preparatory process and the high-level international intergovernmental event, within the framework of its substantive agenda,

*Also welcoming* the hearings held with civil society to support the financing for development process, looking forward to the contribution of the forthcoming hearings with the private sector, and encouraging the deepening of those efforts in support of the financing for development preparatory process and the high-level international intergovernmental event, within the framework of its substantive agenda,

*Expressing its appreciation* to Governments for the support they have provided to the trust fund for extrabudgetary contributions for the financing for development process,

1. *Decides* that the high-level international intergovernmental event should be scheduled for the first quarter of 2002, at a date to be agreed upon, and extends its invitation to interested countries to consider hosting or confirming existing offers to host the high-level international intergovernmental event;

2. *Also decides* that the Preparatory Committee should hold a final session from 14 to 25 January 2002, on the understanding that the second session will be held from 12 to 23 February 2001 and the third session from 30 April to 11 May 2001;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to address a letter to all Governments further sensitizing them to the high profile and high level of participation that the substantive preparatory process and the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development deserve.

## RESOLUTION 55/214

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/589, para. 11)[193]

### 55/214. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 52/187 of 18 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in 2001, as well as its resolutions 53/182 of 15 December 1998 and 54/235 of 23 December 1999,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted on 8 September 2000 by the heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,[194]

*Taking note* of the Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted at the South Summit of the Group of 77, held at Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000,[195] the Declaration adopted by the Tenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries, held in New York on 18 September 2000,[196] and the Ministerial Statement adopted at the twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, held in New York on 15 September 2000,[197]

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[191] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Preparatory Committee for the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development.

[192] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 28* (A/55/28).

[193] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[194] See resolution 55/2.

[195] A/55/74, annexes I and II.

[196] A/C.2/55/4, annex.

[197] A/55/459, annex.

*Noting* the progress made in the preparatory process for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at the country, regional and global levels,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of preparations for the Conference,[198] the report of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee for the Conference on its first session, held in New York from 24 to 28 July 2000,[199] and the outcome of the forty-seventh session of the Trade and Development Board on the preparatory process of the Conference,[200]

*Taking note also* of *The Least Developed Countries 2000 Report*,[201]

1. *Recalls* that the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries will convene from 14 to 20 May 2001 and will be hosted by the European Union at Brussels;

2. *Decides*, in the light of the recommendation of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee for the Conference at its first session, to convene, within existing resources, the second session of the Committee from 5 to 9 February 2001 in New York, at which the Committee will undertake the first formal reading of the draft programme of action and consider other relevant matters, while noting that the final session of the Committee will be held in New York from 2 to 6 April 2001;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to defray the cost of participation of two government representatives from each least developed country in the second and final sessions of the Preparatory Committee through the use of extrabudgetary resources, and also requests that the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee keep the matter under regular review on the basis of information provided by the Secretary-General of the Conference;

4. *Notes* that sufficient extrabudgetary resources will need to be mobilized to defray the cost of participation of the least developed countries in the third session of the Preparatory Committee, and, in this regard, invites additional contributions from multilateral and bilateral donors, and requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to seek funding from all possible sources for this purpose;

5. *Welcomes* the contributions already made by multilateral and bilateral donors for the participation of representatives from the least developed countries in the sessions of the Preparatory Committee and in the Conference;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders from the least developed countries and their development partners, as well as of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant multilateral organizations;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of the contribution of civil society actors at the Conference and its preparatory process, stresses, in this regard, the need for their active participation, including those from the least developed countries, and invites donors to make appropriate contributions for that purpose;

8. *Invites* the participation in the Conference and in its preparatory process of (*a*) the relevant non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in accordance with Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, (*b*) the non-governmental organizations that were accredited to the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held from 3 to 14 September 1990 and (*c*) the non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, decides that the accreditation of other interested civil society actors, in particular non-governmental organizations and the business sector, to the Conference and its preparatory process shall be considered by the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee on a no-objection basis before 31 January 2001 for final decision by the Committee at its second session, provided that requests for accreditation are submitted to the secretariat of the Conference before 15 January 2001 and are accompanied by the relevant information, and requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to inform the community of civil society actors appropriately about this accreditation process;

9. *Also invites* the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee to make recommendations for the consideration of Member States during the second session of the Committee as to the form of involvement of civil society actors in the final session of the Committee and at the Conference;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of country-level preparations as a critical input to the preparatory process for the Conference and the implementation of and follow-up to its outcome;

11. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in his capacity as convenor of the United Nations Development Group, to continue to ensure the full involvement of the United Nations resident coordinators and country teams in the least developed countries in the preparations for the Conference, in particular at the country level;

12. *Welcomes* the statement of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the Conference,[202] and calls

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[198] A/55/222.

[199] A/CONF.191/2.

[200] See A/55/15. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 15*.

[201] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.II.D.21.

[202] ACC/2000/20, para. 28.

upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to convene inter-agency consultations, within the context of the machinery of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant multilateral intergovernmental organizations, during the preparatory process for the Conference and the implementation of and follow-up to its outcome;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of an effective arrangement for follow-up, review and monitoring of the new programme of action for the least developed countries, and requests the Secretary-General to recommend to the General Assembly concrete steps in this regard;

14. *Stresses* that the intergovernmental follow-up, review and monitoring of the new programme of action should be undertaken in a more effective manner, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, particularly the least developed countries, as well as with the involvement of concerned organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant multilateral intergovernmental organizations, and emphasizes the need to explore innovative approaches in this regard;

15. *Notes* the current level of regular budget resources available to the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that sufficient resources are made available throughout the remainder of the current biennium, through judicious management of the resources at his disposal, and to report on the matter at its fifty-sixth session;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-sixth session a report on the outcome of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

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## RESOLUTION 55/57

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/591, para. 9)[1]

### 55/57. International Year of Volunteers

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 52/17 of 20 November 1997, in which it proclaimed the year 2001 as the International Year of Volunteers, and also recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/44 of 22 July 1997,

*Recalling also* the outcome document of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[2] entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000, in which the General Assembly recommended the promotion of the involvement of volunteers in social development, inter alia, by encouraging Governments, taking into account the views of all actors, to develop comprehensive strategies and programmes by raising public awareness about the value and opportunities of voluntarism and by facilitating an enabling environment for individuals and other actors of civil society to engage in, and the private sector to support, voluntary activities,

*Welcoming* the decision of the Commission for Social Development, at its thirty-eighth session, to include the subject of volunteering in the provisional agenda for its thirty-ninth session,[3]

*Taking into account* the valuable contribution of volunteering to both economic and social development,

*Bearing in mind* that volunteering is one of the important ways in which people participate in societal development,

1. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by States, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations and the United Nations system for the promotion of volunteerism and, specifically, in preparation for the observance of the International Year of Volunteers, and encourages them to continue their efforts;

2. *Calls upon* States to promote, especially during the Year, an environment conducive to the discussion, at the national and local levels, of the characteristics and trends of volunteer action in their own societies, including the major challenges which the Year can help to address, and to incorporate the subject of volunteering into high-level and other meetings and events during 2001;

3. *Invites* States to consider all means available for more people to become involved in voluntary action and to be drawn from a broader cross-section of society, especially from groups, including young people, older people and people with disabilities, in view of the benefits accruing to volunteers through volunteer action;

4. *Encourages* Governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, eminent persons and other relevant actors to take all possible measures to promote volunteer action, especially during the Year, in particular at the local level, and in cooperation with, inter alia, local authorities, community leaders, the media and schools;

5. *Encourages* organizations of the United Nations system to pay attention to the Year in their regular work and in their relevant meetings and to continue to collaborate with the United Nations Volunteers programme as focal point for the Year to ensure that the contributions of volunteers in their own areas of concern are fully recognized;

6. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to make appropriate suggestions and recommendations to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, to further the contribution of volunteering to social development;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit his note[4] transmitting the contribution of the United Nations Volunteers programme to the preparations for the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", as a document of the thirty-ninth session of the Commission for Social Development, and requests him, furthermore, to disseminate it widely within the United Nations system, including by making it available to the Commission on Human Settlements acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the Habitat Agenda, the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly for follow-up to the World Summit for Children, the preparatory committee for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fifth session;

8. *Decides* that two plenary meetings of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly shall be devoted to volunteering, to coincide with the close of the International Year of Volunteers on 5 December 2001, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report on ways in which

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[2] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[3] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 6* and corrigendum (E/2000/26 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. B.

[4] A/AC.253/16/Add.7.

Governments and the United Nations system could support volunteering for discussion on that occasion;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the outcome of the International Year of Volunteers and its follow-up.

## RESOLUTION 55/58

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/592, para. 9)[5]

### 55/58. Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/24 of 10 November 1999, and its resolution 54/262 of 25 May 2000, by which it decided to convene the Second World Assembly on Ageing, to be held in Spain in April 2002,

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/1 of 3 May 2000, as well as Commission for Social Development decision 38/100 of 17 February 2000,[6]

*Acknowledging* the initiatives undertaken and the momentum generated, at all levels, towards addressing the challenges of the ageing of populations and the concerns and contributions of older persons by the celebration of the International Year of Older Persons,

*Bearing in mind* that, in its resolution 54/262, the General Assembly decided that the Commission for Social Development would serve as the preparatory committee for the Second World Assembly on Ageing,

*Reiterating* that the Second World Assembly on Ageing should give particular attention, inter alia, to linkages between ageing and development, with particular attention to the needs, priorities and perspectives of developing countries,

*Reaffirming* the necessity of ensuring that the Second World Assembly on Ageing will provide an action-oriented follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons, and recognizing the importance of an adequate preparatory process,

*Reaffirming also* that the revised plan of action and the long-term strategy on ageing will contain realistic financial recommendations for implementation,

*Recognizing* the continuing process of elaboration of the United Nations research agenda on ageing for the twenty-first century, which is aimed at providing a background for policy responses to ageing, in particular in developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons;[7]

2. *Decides* that the Second World Assembly on Ageing shall be held at Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002;

3. *Invites* Member States, where appropriate, to consider extending the mandate of national committees or other mechanisms established on the occasion of the International Year of Older Persons in order to undertake national preparations for the Second World Assembly on Ageing, and also invites Member States currently without them to consider appropriate ways or mechanisms for their preparations for the Second World Assembly;

4. *Notes* the encouraging responses of Member States, United Nations entities and non-governmental organizations to the request by the Secretariat eliciting their views on the progress in and obstacles to the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing,[8] as well as on priority issues to be addressed in a revised plan of action, and encourages those that have not yet responded to consider doing so;

5. *Invites* the regional commissions to explore the feasibility of holding regional activities with Member States, non-governmental organizations and other relevant actors of civil society in their region, in preparation for and as follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing;

6. *Invites* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to launch, in cooperation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the host country, an information campaign for the Second World Assembly on Ageing;

7. *Welcomes* the establishment by the United Nations programme on ageing of the Internet-accessible database on policies and programmes on ageing, and invites Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to

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[5] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

[6] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 6* and corrigendum (E/2000/26 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. C.

[7] A/55/167.

[8] See *Report of the World Assembly on Ageing, Vienna, 26 July–6 August 1982* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16) chap. VI, sect. A.

collaborate with the Secretariat in updating and maintaining the database through the provision of timely information;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/59

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/593, para. 20)[9]

### 55/59. Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* that, in its resolution 54/125 of 17 December 1999, it requested the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders to submit, through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Economic and Social Council, its declaration to the Millennium Assembly for consideration and action and requested the Commission to give priority attention at its ninth session to the conclusions and recommendations of the Tenth Congress, with a view to recommending, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate follow-up by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session,

*Endorses* the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the States Members of the United Nations and the other States participating in the high-level segment of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[10] as contained in the annex to the present resolution.

### Annex

### Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century

*We the States Members of the United Nations,*

*Concerned* about the impact on our societies of the commission of serious crimes of a global nature, and convinced of the need for bilateral, regional and international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice,

*Concerned in particular* about transnational organized crime and the relationships between its various forms,

*Convinced* that adequate prevention and rehabilitation programmes are fundamental to an effective crime control strategy and that such programmes should take into account social and economic factors that may make people more vulnerable to and likely to engage in criminal behaviour,

*Stressing* that a fair, responsible, ethical and efficient criminal justice system is an important factor in the promotion of economic and social development and of human security,

*Aware* of the promise of restorative approaches to justice that aim to reduce crime and promote the healing of victims, offenders and communities,

*Having assembled* at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in Vienna from 10 to 17 April 2000 to decide to take more effective concerted action, in a spirit of cooperation, to combat the world crime problem,

*Declare* as follows:

1. We note with appreciation the results of the regional preparatory meetings for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.[11]

2. We reaffirm the goals of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct.

3. We emphasize the responsibility of each State to establish and maintain a fair, responsible, ethical and efficient criminal justice system.

4. We recognize the necessity of closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating the world crime problem, bearing in mind that action against it is a common and shared responsibility. In this regard, we acknowledge the need to develop and promote technical cooperation activities to assist States in their efforts to strengthen their domestic criminal justice systems and their capacity for international cooperation.

5. We shall accord high priority to the completion of the negotiation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto, taking into account the concerns of all States.

6. We support efforts to assist States in capacity-building, including in obtaining training and technical assistance and in developing legislation, regulations and expertise, with a view to facilitating the implementation of the Convention and the protocols thereto.

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[9] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[10] See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10–17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

[11] See A/CONF.187/RPM.1/1 and Corr.1, A/CONF.187/RPM.2/1, A/CONF.187/RPM.3/1 and A/CONF.187/RPM.4/1.

7. Consistent with the goals of the Convention and the protocols thereto, we shall endeavour:

(*a*) To incorporate a crime prevention component into national and international development strategies;

(*b*) To intensify bilateral and multilateral cooperation, including technical cooperation, in the areas to be covered by the Convention and the protocols thereto;

(*c*) To enhance donor cooperation in areas with crime prevention aspects;

(*d*) To strengthen the capability of the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention, as well as the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, to assist States, at their request, in building capacity in areas to be covered by the Convention and the protocols thereto.

8. We welcome the efforts being made by the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention to develop, in cooperation with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, a comprehensive global overview of organized crime as a reference tool and to assist Governments in policy and programme development.

9. We reaffirm our continued support for and commitment to the United Nations and to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, especially the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and the institutes of the Programme network, and resolve to strengthen the Programme further through sustained funding, as appropriate.

10. We undertake to strengthen international cooperation in order to create a conducive environment for the fight against organized crime, promoting growth and sustainable development and eradicating poverty and unemployment.

11. We commit ourselves to taking into account and addressing, within the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, as well as within national crime prevention and criminal justice strategies, any disparate impact of programmes and policies on women and men.

12. We also commit ourselves to the development of action-oriented policy recommendations based on the special needs of women as criminal justice practitioners, victims, prisoners and offenders.

13. We emphasize that effective action for crime prevention and criminal justice requires the involvement, as partners and actors, of Governments, national, regional, interregional and international institutions, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and various segments of civil society, including the mass media and the private sector, as well as the recognition of their respective roles and contributions.

14. We commit ourselves to the development of more effective ways of collaborating with one another with a view to eradicating the scourge of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and the smuggling of migrants. We shall also consider supporting the global programme against trafficking in persons developed by the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, which is subject to close consultation with States and review by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and we establish 2005 as the target year for achieving a significant decrease in the incidence of those crimes worldwide and, where that is not attained, for assessing the actual implementation of the measures advocated.

15. We also commit ourselves to the enhancement of international cooperation and mutual legal assistance to curb illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and we establish 2005 as the target year for achieving a significant decrease in their incidence worldwide.

16. We further commit ourselves to taking enhanced international action against corruption, building on the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions,[12] the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials,[13] relevant regional conventions and regional and global forums. We stress the urgent need to develop an effective international legal instrument against corruption, independent of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and we invite the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to request the Secretary-General to submit to it at its tenth session, in consultation with States, a thorough review and analysis of all relevant international instruments and recommendations as part of the preparatory work for the development of such an instrument. We shall consider supporting the global programme against corruption developed by the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, which is subject to close consultation with States and review by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

17. We reaffirm that combating money-laundering and the criminal economy constitutes a major element of the strategies against organized crime, established as a principle in the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime, adopted by the World Ministerial Conference on Organized Transnational Crime, held

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[12] Resolution 51/191, annex.

[13] Resolution 51/59, annex.

at Naples, Italy, from 21 to 23 November 1994.[14] We are convinced that the success of this action rests upon setting up broad regimes and coordinating appropriate mechanisms to combat the laundering of the proceeds of crime, including the provision of support to initiatives focusing on States and territories offering offshore financial services that allow the laundering of the proceeds of crime.

18. We decide to develop action-oriented policy recommendations on the prevention and control of computer-related crime, and we invite the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to undertake work in this regard, taking into account the ongoing work in other forums. We also commit ourselves to working towards enhancing our ability to prevent, investigate and prosecute high-technology and computer-related crime.

19. We note that acts of violence and terrorism continue to be of grave concern. In conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and taking into account all the relevant General Assembly resolutions, we shall together, in conjunction with our other efforts to prevent and to combat terrorism, take effective, resolute and speedy measures with respect to preventing and combating criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. With this in view, we undertake to do our utmost to foster universal adherence to the international instruments concerned with the fight against terrorism.

20. We also note that racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance continue, and we recognize the importance of taking steps to incorporate into international crime prevention strategies and norms measures to prevent and combat crime associated with racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance.

21. We affirm our determination to combat violence stemming from intolerance on the basis of ethnicity, and we resolve to make a strong contribution, in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice, to the planned World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

22. We recognize that the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice contribute to efforts to deal with crime effectively. We also recognize the importance of prison reform, the independence of the judiciary and the prosecution authorities, and the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials. We shall endeavour, as appropriate, to use and apply the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in national law and practice. We undertake to review relevant legislation and administrative procedures, as appropriate, with a view to providing the necessary education and training to the officials concerned and ensuring the necessary strengthening of institutions entrusted with the administration of criminal justice.

23. We also recognize the value of the model treaties on international cooperation in criminal matters as important tools for the development of international cooperation, and we invite the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to call upon the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention to update the *Compendium of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice*[15] in order to provide the most up-to-date versions of the model treaties to States seeking to utilize them.

24. We further recognize with great concern that juveniles in difficult circumstances are often at risk of becoming delinquent or easy candidates for recruitment by criminal groups, including groups involved in transnational organized crime, and we commit ourselves to undertaking countermeasures to prevent this growing phenomenon and to including, where necessary, provisions for juvenile justice in national development plans and international development strategies and to including the administration of juvenile justice in our funding policies for development cooperation.

25. We recognize that comprehensive crime prevention strategies at the international, national, regional and local levels must address the root causes and risk factors related to crime and victimization through social, economic, health, educational and justice policies. We urge the development of such strategies, aware of the proven success of prevention initiatives in numerous States and confident that crime can be reduced by applying and sharing our collective expertise.

26. We commit ourselves to according priority to containing the growth and overcrowding of pre-trial and detention prison populations, as appropriate, by promoting safe and effective alternatives to incarceration.

27. We decide to introduce, where appropriate, national, regional and international action plans in support of victims of crime, such as mechanisms for mediation and restorative justice, and we establish 2002 as a target date for States to review their relevant practices, to develop further victim support services and awareness campaigns on the rights of victims and to consider the establishment of funds for victims, in addition to developing and implementing witness protection policies.

28. We encourage the development of restorative justice policies, procedures and programmes that are respectful of the rights, needs and interests of victims, offenders, communities and all other parties.

29. We invite the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to design specific measures for the

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[14] A/49/748, annex, sect. I.A.

[15] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IV.1 and corrigendum.

implementation of and follow-up to the commitments that we have undertaken in the present Declaration.

## RESOLUTION 55/60

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/593, para. 20)[16]

### 55/60. Follow-up to the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/125 of 17 December 1999,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the results of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[17] including the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the Tenth Congress during its high-level segment, which were considered by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its ninth session, held in Vienna from 18 to 20 April 2000,

1. *Urges* Governments, in their efforts to prevent and combat crime, especially transnational crime, and to maintain well-functioning criminal justice systems, to be guided by the results of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;[17]

2. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to continue at its tenth session its consideration of the findings and recommendations embodied in the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century adopted by the Tenth Congress and, as appropriate, the report of the Tenth Congress, and to take appropriate action;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States, draft plans of action to include specific measures for the implementation of and follow-up to the commitments undertaken in the Declaration for consideration and action by the Commission at its tenth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/61

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/593, para. 20)[18]

### 55/61. An effective international legal instrument against corruption

*The General Assembly,*

*Noting* the corrosive effect that corruption has on democracy, development, the rule of law and economic activity,

*Recalling* its resolutions 53/111 of 9 December 1998, by which it established the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and 54/126 of 17 December 1999, in which it requested the Ad Hoc Committee to complete its work in 2000,

*Recalling also* its resolution 54/128 of 17 December 1999, in which it requested the Ad Hoc Committee to explore the desirability of an international instrument against corruption, either ancillary to or independent of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[19]

*Taking note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on its seventh session,[20] during which it considered the implementation of resolution 54/128,

*Recalling* the debates and especially the statements made at the high-level segment and the results of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[21] in particular the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,

*Bearing in mind* the need to prepare a broad instrument that takes into account existing international conventions against corruption,

1. *Recognizes* that an effective international legal instrument against corruption, independent of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[19] is desirable;

2. *Decides* to begin the elaboration of such an instrument in Vienna at the headquarters of the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report analysing all relevant international legal instruments, other documents and recommendations addressing corruption,[22] considering, inter alia, obligations as regards criminalization of all forms of corruption and international cooperation, regulatory aspects of corruption and the relationship between corruption

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[16] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[17] See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10–17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

[18] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[19] Adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000 (annex I).

[20] A/AC.254/25.

[21] See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10–17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

[22] See the annex to the present resolution for an indicative list of such legal instruments, documents and recommendations.

and money-laundering, and to submit it to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at an inter-sessional meeting in order to allow Member States to provide comments to the Commission prior to its tenth session;

4. *Requests* the Commission, at its tenth session, to review and assess the report of the Secretary-General and, on that basis, to provide recommendations and guidance as to future work on the development of a legal instrument against corruption;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, upon completion of the negotiation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the related protocols, an intergovernmental open-ended expert group to examine and prepare, on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General and of the recommendations of the Commission at its tenth session, draft terms of reference for the negotiation of the future legal instrument against corruption;

6. *Requests* the intergovernmental open-ended expert group to submit the draft terms of reference for the negotiation of the future legal instrument, through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session for adoption;

7. *Decides* to establish an ad hoc committee for the negotiation of such an instrument to start its work in Vienna as soon as the draft terms of reference for such negotiation are adopted;

8. *Invites* donor countries to assist the United Nations in ensuring the effective participation of developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in the work of the intergovernmental open-ended expert group and the ad hoc committee, including travel and local expenses;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Commission and the intergovernmental open-ended expert group with the required facilities and resources to support their work.

## Annex

## Indicative list of international legal instruments, documents and recommendations against corruption

(*a*) International Code of Conduct for Public Officials;[23]

(*b*) United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions;[24]

(*c*) General Assembly resolution 54/128, in which the Assembly subscribed to the conclusions and recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting on Corruption and its Financial Channels, held in Paris from 30 March to 1 April 1999;[25]

(*d*) Report of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;[21]

(*e*) Inter-American Convention against Corruption adopted by the Organization of American States on 29 March 1996;[26]

(*f*) Recommendation 32 of the Senior Experts Group on Transnational Organized Crime endorsed by the Political Group of Eight in Lyon, France, on 29 June 1996;[27]

(*g*) The Twenty Guiding Principles for the Fight against Corruption adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 6 November 1997;[28]

(*h*) Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions adopted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development on 21 November 1997;[29]

(*i*) Agreement Establishing the Group of States against Corruption adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 1 May 1999,[30] and the Criminal Law Convention on Corruption adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 4 November 1998;[31]

(*j*) Joint Action on corruption in the private sector adopted by the Council of the European Union on 22 December 1998;[32]

(*k*) Declarations made by the first Global Forum on Fighting Corruption, held in Washington, D.C., from 24 to 26 February 1999,[33] and the second Global Forum, to be held in The Hague in 2001;

(*l*) Civil Law Convention on Corruption adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 9 September 1999;[34]

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[23] Resolution 51/59, annex.

[24] Resolution 51/191, annex.

[25] E/CN.15/1999/10, paras. 1–14.

[26] See E/1996/99.

[27] See Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/22, annex I.

[28] See Council of Europe, *Texts adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, 1997*, Strasbourg, France, 1998, resolution (97) 24.

[29] See *Corruption and Integrity Improvement Initiatives in Developing Countries* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.III.B.18).

[30] See *Official Gazette of the Council of Europe: Committee of Ministers part-volume*, No. V – May 1999, resolution (99) 5.

[31] Council of Europe, *European Treaty Series*, No. 173.

[32] See *Official Journal of the European Communities*, No. L 358, 31 December 1998.

[33] E/CN.15/1999/WP.1/Add.1.

[34] Council of Europe, *European Treaty Series*, No. 174.

(*m*) Model Code of Conduct for Public Officials adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 11 May 2000;[35]

(*n*) Principles to Combat Corruption in African Countries of the Global Coalition for Africa;[36]

(*o*) Conventions and related protocols of the European Union on corruption;

(*p*) Best practices such as those compiled by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, the Financial Action Task Force on Money-Laundering and the International Organization of Securities Commissions.

## RESOLUTION 55/62

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/593, para. 20)[37]

### 55/62. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/130 of 17 December 1999 and all other relevant resolutions,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[38]

*Bearing in mind* the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

*Noting* that the financial situation of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders has greatly affected its capacity to deliver its services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote and coordinate regional technical cooperation activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

2. *Also commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to provide the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

3. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

4. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

5. *Calls upon* all Member States and non-governmental organizations to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and implement its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to deploy his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to work closely with the Institute;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make concrete proposals, including the provision of additional core professional staff, in order to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/63

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/593, para. 20)[39]

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[35] See *Official Gazette of the Council of Europe: Committee of Ministers part-volume*, No. V – May 2000, recommendation R (2000) 10.

[36] See www.gca-cma.org.

[37] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Lesotho (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[38] A/55/156.

[39] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

## 55/63. Combating the criminal misuse of information technologies

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[40] in which Member States resolved to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication technologies, in conformity with recommendations contained in the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2000 of the Economic and Social Council,[41] are available to all,

*Recalling also* its resolution 45/121 of 14 December 1990, in which it endorsed the recommendations of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[42] and noting in particular the resolution on computer-related crimes,[43] in which the Eighth Congress called upon States to intensify their efforts to combat computer-related abuses more effectively,

*Emphasizing* the contributions that the United Nations, in particular the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, can make in the promotion of more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice and of the highest standards of fairness and human dignity,

*Recognizing* that the free flow of information can promote economic and social development, education and democratic governance,

*Noting* significant advancements in the development and application of information technologies and means of telecommunication,

*Expressing concern* that technological advancements have created new possibilities for criminal activity, in particular the criminal misuse of information technologies,

*Noting* that reliance on information technologies, while it may vary from State to State, has resulted in a substantial increase in global cooperation and coordination, with the result that the criminal misuse of information technologies may have a grave impact on all States,

*Recognizing* that gaps in the access to and use of information technologies by States can diminish the effectiveness of international cooperation in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies, and noting the need to facilitate the transfer of information technologies, in particular to developing countries,

*Noting* the necessity of preventing the criminal misuse of information technologies,

*Recognizing* the need for cooperation between States and private industry in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies,

*Underlining* the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation among States in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies, and, in this context, stressing the role that can be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations,

*Welcoming* the work of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[44]

*Noting* the work of the Committee of Experts on Crime in Cyberspace of the Council of Europe on a draft convention on cybercrime, the principles agreed to by the Ministers of Justice and the Interior of the Group of Eight in Washington, D.C., on 10 December 1997, which were endorsed by the heads of State of the Group of Eight in Birmingham, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on 17 May 1998, the work of the Conference of the Group of Eight on a dialogue between government and industry on safety and confidence in cyberspace, held in Paris from 15 to 17 May 2000, and the recommendations approved on 3 March 2000 by the Third Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas, convened in San José, Costa Rica, from 1 to 3 March 2000 within the framework of the Organization of American States,[45]

1. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the above-mentioned bodies to prevent the criminal misuse of information technologies, and also notes the value of, inter alia, the following measures to combat such misuse:

(*a*) States should ensure that their laws and practice eliminate safe havens for those who criminally misuse information technologies;

(*b*) Law enforcement cooperation in the investigation and prosecution of international cases of criminal misuse of information technologies should be coordinated among all concerned States;

(*c*) Information should be exchanged between States regarding the problems that they face in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies;

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[40] See resolution 55/2.

[41] See A/55/3, chap. III. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3*.

[42] *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap I.

[43] Ibid., sect. C, resolution 9.

[44] See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10–17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

[45] See REMJA-III/doc.14/00 rev. 2, chap. IV.

(*d*) Law enforcement personnel should be trained and equipped to address the criminal misuse of information technologies;

(*e*) Legal systems should protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of data and computer systems from unauthorized impairment and ensure that criminal abuse is penalized;

(*f*) Legal systems should permit the preservation of and quick access to electronic data pertaining to particular criminal investigations;

(*g*) Mutual assistance regimes should ensure the timely investigation of the criminal misuse of information technologies and the timely gathering and exchange of evidence in such cases;

(*h*) The general public should be made aware of the need to prevent and combat the criminal misuse of information technologies;

(*i*) To the extent practicable, information technologies should be designed to help to prevent and detect criminal misuse, trace criminals and collect evidence;

(*j*) The fight against the criminal misuse of information technologies requires the development of solutions taking into account both the protection of individual freedoms and privacy and the preservation of the capacity of Governments to fight such criminal misuse;

2. *Invites* States to take into account the above-mentioned measures in their efforts to combat the criminal misuse of information technologies;

3. *Decides* to maintain the question of the criminal misuse of information technologies on the agenda of its fifty-sixth session, as part of the item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice".

## RESOLUTION 55/64

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/593, para. 20)[46]

### 55/64. Strengthening of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to that resolution,

*Emphasizing* the role of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

*Convinced* of the desirability of closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime, including drug-related crimes such as money-laundering, illicit arms trade and terrorist crimes, bearing in mind the role that could be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

*Recognizing* the urgent need to increase technical cooperation activities to assist countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with their efforts in translating United Nations policy guidelines into practice,

*Recognizing also* the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention between the immediate priority of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[47] and the protocols thereto and other priorities identified by the Economic and Social Council,

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions in which it requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandate, in conformity with the high priority attached to the Programme,

*Bearing in mind* the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, which was adopted by the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[48] and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000, in which Member States renewed their commitment to combat organized crime in all its forms and manifestations and to promote crime prevention in all its areas,

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[46] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[47] Adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000 (annex I).

[48] See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10–17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

*Welcoming* the successful completion of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, established by its resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998, and the progress achieved in the elaboration of the three supplementary protocols, namely the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air,[49] the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[50]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 54/131 of 17 December 1999;[51]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

3. *Also reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention in providing to Member States, upon request, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the area of prevention and control of organized crime;

4. *Notes* the programme of work of the Centre, including the three global programmes addressing, respectively, trafficking in human beings, corruption and organized crime, formulated on the basis of close consultations with Member States and review by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and calls upon the Secretary-General further to strengthen the Centre by providing it with the resources necessary for the full implementation of its mandate;

5. *Supports* the high priority given to technical cooperation and advisory services in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the area of prevention and control of transnational organized crime, and stresses the need to enhance the operational activities of the Centre to assist, in particular, developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

6. *Welcomes* the increased number of technical assistance projects in the field of juvenile justice, reflecting an increased awareness among Member States of the importance of juvenile justice reform in establishing and maintaining stable societies and the rule of law;

7. *Invites* all States to support, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

8. *Encourages* relevant programmes, funds and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, and regional and national funding agencies to support the technical operational activities of the Centre;

9. *Urges* States and funding agencies to review, as appropriate, their funding policies for development assistance and to include a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to exercise more vigorously its mandated function of resource mobilization, and calls upon the Commission to strengthen further its activities in this direction;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* to non-governmental organizations and other relevant sectors of civil society for their support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention to enhance the synergies between the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention, in conformity with the reform proposals of the Secretary-General;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to assist the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policy-making body in this field, in performing its activities, including cooperation and coordination with other relevant bodies, such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission for Social Development;

14. *Invites* States to make adequate voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund in order to strengthen the capacity of the Centre to provide technical assistance to requesting States for the implementation of the commitments entered into at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and, in particular, to implement programmes designed to combat and prevent the trafficking in human beings, the smuggling of migrants and corruption, and to study and bring about action to combat and prevent transnational organized crime;

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[49] Resolution 55/25, annex III.

[50] Ibid., annex II.

[51] A/55/119.

15. *Encourages* States to begin making adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[47] and the protocols thereto,[49, 50] which will be open for signature in Palermo, Italy, on 12 December 2000, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in the Convention;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures and provide adequate support to the Centre during the biennium 2002–2003 so as to enable it to promote the speedy entry into force of the Convention and the protocols thereto;

17. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to mainstream a gender perspective into its activities and its request to the Secretariat that a gender perspective be integrated into all activities of the Centre;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/65

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/594, para. 7)[52]

### 55/65. International cooperation against the world drug problem

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/92 of 12 December 1997, 53/115 of 9 December 1998 and 54/132 of 17 December 1999,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly devoted to countering the world drug problem together, held in New York from 8 to 10 June 1998, and welcoming the continued determination of Governments to overcome the world drug problem by a full and balanced application of national, regional and international strategies to reduce the demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit drugs, as reflected in the Political Declaration,[53] the Action Plan[54] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[55] and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,[56]

*Gravely concerned* that, despite continued increased efforts by States, relevant international organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, the drug problem is still a challenge of a global dimension, which constitutes a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of all mankind, in particular young people, in all countries, undermines development, including efforts to reduce poverty, socio-economic and political stability and democratic institutions, entails an increasing economic cost for Governments, also threatens the national security and sovereignty of States, as well as the dignity and hope of millions of people and their families, and causes irreparable loss of human lives,

*Concerned* that the demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit drugs and psychotropic substances continue to threaten seriously the socio-economic and political systems, stability, national security and sovereignty of many States, especially those involved in conflicts and wars, and that trafficking in drugs could make conflict resolution more difficult,

*Deeply alarmed* by the violence and economic power of criminal organizations and terrorist groups engaged in drug-trafficking activities and other criminal activities, such as money-laundering and illicit traffic in arms, precursors and essential chemicals, and by the increasing transnational links between them, and recognizing the need for international cooperation and implementation of effective strategies on the basis of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, which are essential to achieving results against all forms of transnational criminal activities,

*Noting with grave concern* the global increase in the use of minors in the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as in the number of children and young people starting to use drugs at an earlier age and in their access to substances not previously used,

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[52] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[53] Resolution S-20/2, annex.

[54] Resolution 54/132, annex.

[55] Resolution S-20/3, annex.

[56] Resolution S-20/4.

*Alarmed* by the rapid and widespread increase in the illicit manufacture, trafficking and consumption, in particular by young people, of synthetic drugs in many countries and by the high probability that amphetamine-type stimulants, in particular methamphetamine and amphetamine, may become drugs of choice among abusers in the twenty-first century,

*Deeply convinced* that the special session made a significant contribution to a new comprehensive framework for international cooperation, based on an integrated and balanced approach with strategies, measures, methods, practical activities, goals and specific targets to be met, that all States, the United Nations system and other international organizations must implement them with concrete actions and that the international financial institutions, such as the World Bank, and the regional development banks should be invited to include action against the world drug problem in their programmes, taking into account the priorities of States,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the commitments of Member States in meeting the objectives targeted for 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, and welcoming the guidelines for reporting on the follow-up to the twentieth special session adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its reconvened forty-second session,[57]

*Emphasizing* the importance of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, which introduces a global approach, recognizing a new balance between illicit supply and demand reduction, under the principle of shared responsibility, aims at preventing the use of drugs and at reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse, ensuring that special attention is paid to vulnerable groups, in particular children and young people, and constitutes one of the pillars of the new global strategy, and reaffirming the need for demand reduction programmes,

*Emphasizing equally* the importance of supply reduction as an integral part of a balanced drug control strategy under the principles enshrined in the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[58] reaffirming the need for alternative development programmes that are sustainable, welcoming the achievements of some States on their way to eradicating illicit drug crops, and inviting all other States to make similar efforts,

*Underlining* the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal United Nations policy-making body on drug control issues, the leadership role and commendable work of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as the main focus for concerted multilateral action and the important role of the International Narcotics Control Board as an independent monitoring authority, as set out in the international drug control treaties,

*Recognizing* the efforts of all countries, in particular those that produce narcotic drugs for scientific and medical purposes, and of the International Narcotics Control Board in preventing the diversion of such substances to illicit markets and in maintaining production at a level consistent with licit demand, in line with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[59] and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[60]

*Recognizing also* that the problem of the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is often related to development problems and that those links and the promotion of the economic development of countries affected by the illicit drug trade require, within the context of shared responsibility, appropriate measures, including strengthened international cooperation in support of alternative and sustainable development activities, in the affected areas of those countries, that have as their objectives the reduction and elimination of illicit drug production,

*Stressing* that respect for all human rights is and must be an essential component of measures taken to address the drug problem,

*Ensuring* that women and men benefit equally, and without any discrimination, from strategies directed against the world drug problem, through their involvement in all stages of programmes and policy-making,

*Recognizing* that the use of the Internet poses new opportunities and challenges to international cooperation in countering drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking, and recognizing also the need for increased cooperation among States and the exchange of information, including with reference to national experiences, on how to counter the promotion of drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking through this instrument and on ways to use the Internet for information concerning drug demand reduction,

*Convinced* that civil society, including non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, should continue to play an active role and make an effective contribution to countering the world drug problem,

*Acknowledging with appreciation* the increased efforts and achievements of many States, relevant international organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations in countering drug abuse and illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, and that international cooperation has shown that positive results can be achieved through sustained and collective efforts,

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[57] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 8* (E/1999/28/Rev.1), part two, chap. I, resolution 42/11, annex.

[58] Resolution S-20/4 E.

[59] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

[60] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

## I

## Respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law in countering the world drug problem

1. *Reaffirms* that countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility which must be addressed in a multilateral setting, requiring an integrated and balanced approach, and must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and in particular with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Calls upon* all States to take further action to promote effective cooperation at the international and regional levels in the efforts to counter the world drug problem so as to contribute to a climate conducive to achieving that end, on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

3. *Urges* all States to ratify or accede to and implement all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[61] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[60] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[62]

## II

## International cooperation to counter the world drug problem

1. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[63] to counter the world drug problem;

2. *Urges* competent authorities, at the international, regional and national levels, to implement the outcome of the twentieth special session, within the agreed time frames, in particular the high-priority practical measures at the international, regional or national level, as indicated in the Political Declaration,[53] the Action Plan[54] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[55] and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,[56] including the Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors,[64] the measures to prevent the illicit manufacture, import, export, trafficking, distribution and diversion of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,[65] the measures to promote judicial cooperation,[66] the measures to counter money-laundering[67] and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;[58]

3. *Urges* all Member States to implement the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction in their respective national, regional and international actions and to strengthen their national efforts to counter the abuse of illicit drugs among their population, in particular among children and young people;

4. *Recognizes* the role of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in developing action-oriented strategies to assist Member States in the implementation of the Declaration, and requests the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-fourth session on the follow-up to the Action Plan;

5. *Reaffirms its resolve* to continue to strengthen the United Nations machinery for international drug control, in particular the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, and the International Narcotics Control Board in order to enable them to fulfil their mandates, bearing in mind the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/30 of 28 July 1999, and notes the measures taken by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-third session aimed at the enhancement of its functioning;[68]

6. *Renews its commitment* to further strengthening international cooperation and substantially increasing efforts to counter the world drug problem, in accordance with the obligations of States under the United Nations drug control conventions, on the basis of the general framework given by the Global Programme of Action,[69] and the outcome of the special session, and taking into account experience gained;

7. *Calls upon* all States to adopt effective measures, including national laws and regulations, to implement the mandates and recommendations of the Global Programme of

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[61] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

[62] See *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November–20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).

[63] See resolution 55/2.

[64] Resolution S-20/4 A.

[65] See resolution S-20/4 B.

[66] Resolution S-20/4 C.

[67] Resolution S-20/4 D.

[68] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 8* (E/2000/28), chap. VII, sect. B, paras. 152–154.

[69] See resolution S-17/2, annex.

Action and the outcome and the goals of the special session, within the agreed time frame, to strengthen national judicial systems and to carry out effective drug control activities in cooperation with other States in accordance with those international instruments;

8. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions and other concerned intergovernmental and international organizations, within their mandates, and all actors of civil society, notably non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, sports associations, the media and the private sector, to continue their close cooperation with Governments in their efforts to promote and implement the Global Programme of Action, the outcome of the special session and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, including through public information campaigns, resorting, inter alia, where available, to the Internet;

9. *Urges* Governments, the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other international organizations to assist and support States, upon request, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support, with the aim of enhancing their capacity to counter illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account national plans and initiatives, and emphasizes the importance of subregional, regional and international cooperation in countering illicit drug trafficking;

10. *Reaffirms* that preventing the diversion of chemicals from legitimate commerce to illicit drug manufacture is an essential component of a comprehensive strategy against drug abuse and trafficking, which requires the effective cooperation of exporting, importing and transit States, notes the progress made in developing practical guidelines to prevent such diversion of chemicals, including those of the International Narcotics Control Board and the recommendations on implementing article 12 of the 1988 Convention, and calls upon all States to adopt and implement measures to prevent the diversion of chemicals to illicit drug manufacture, in cooperation with competent international and regional bodies and, if necessary and to the extent possible, with the private sector in each State, in accordance with the objectives targeted for 2003 and 2008 in the Political Declaration[53] and the resolution on the control of precursors adopted at the special session;[65]

11. *Calls upon* States in which cultivation and production of illicit drug crops occur to establish or reinforce, where appropriate, national mechanisms to monitor and verify illicit crops, and requests the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-fourth session, in March 2001, on the follow-up to the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;

12. *Calls upon* all States to report biennially to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on their efforts to meet the goals and targets for 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration adopted at the special session, in accordance with the terms established in the guidelines adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its reconvened forty-second session;[57]

13. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to submit a report to the General Assembly in 2003 and 2008[70] on the progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration;

14. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the International Narcotics Control Board to continue their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

15. *Calls upon* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to mainstream a gender perspective into all its policies, programmes and activities, and requests the Secretariat to integrate a gender perspective into all documentation prepared for the Commission;

16. *Recalls* the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1995,[71] notes with satisfaction the commitment of young people to a drug-free society made at various forums, and stresses the importance of young people continuing to contribute their experiences and to participate in the decision-making processes and, in particular, putting into effect the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;

17. *Urges* all States to assign priority to activities aimed at preventing drug and inhalant abuse among children and young people, inter alia, through the promotion of information and education programmes aimed at raising awareness of the risks of drug abuse with a view to giving effect to the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;

18. *Calls upon* States to adopt effective measures, including possible national legislative measures, and to enhance cooperation to stem the illicit trade in small arms, which, as a result of its close link to the illicit drug trade, is generating extremely high levels of crime and violence within the societies of some States, threatening the national security and the economies of those States;

19. *Welcomes* the elaboration of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and notes

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[70] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 8* (E/1999/28/Rev.1), part two, chap. I, resolution 42/11, para. 8.

[71] Resolution 50/81, annex.

the progress achieved in the elaboration of the three related international instruments, within the framework of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[72]

20. *Acknowledges* the efforts made by Member States, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations system during the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse, 1991–2000, under the theme "A global response to a global challenge";

### III

### Action by the United Nations system

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in coordinating and providing effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities so as to increase cost-effectiveness and ensure coherence of action, as well as coordination, complementarity and non-duplication of such activities throughout the United Nations system;

2. *Emphasizes* that the multidimensional nature of the world drug problem calls for the promotion of integration and coordination of drug control activities throughout the United Nations system, including in the follow-up to major United Nations conferences;

3. *Invites* Governments and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to attach high priority to the improvement of the coordination of United Nations activities related to the world drug problem so as to avoid duplication of such activities, strengthen efficiency and accomplish the goals approved by Governments;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies, programmes and funds, including humanitarian organizations, and invites multilateral financial institutions, to include action against the world drug problem in their programming and planning processes in order to ensure that the integral and balanced strategy that emerged from the special session devoted to countering the world drug problem together is being addressed;

### IV

### United Nations International Drug Control Programme

1. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to implement its mandate within the framework of the international drug control treaties, the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control,[73] the Global Programme of Action,[69] the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to countering the world drug problem together and relevant consensus documents;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Programme for the support provided to different States in meeting the objectives of the Global Programme of Action and of the special session, especially in cases where significant and anticipated progress was achieved regarding the objectives targeted for 2003 and 2008;

3. *Requests* the Programme to continue:

(*a*) To strengthen cooperation with Member States and with United Nations programmes, funds and relevant agencies, as well as relevant regional organizations and agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to provide, on request, assistance in implementing the outcome of the special session;

(*b*) To allocate, while keeping the balance between supply and demand reduction programmes, adequate resources to allow it to fulfil its role in the implementation of the Action Plan[54] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;[55]

(*c*) To strengthen dialogue and cooperation with multilateral development banks and with international financial institutions so that they may undertake lending and programming activities related to drug control in interested and affected countries to implement the outcome of the special session, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs informed of further progress made in this area;

(*d*) To take into account the outcome of the special session, to include in its report on illicit traffic in drugs an updated, objective and comprehensive assessment of worldwide trends in illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recommend ways and means of improving the capacity of States along those routes to deal with all aspects of the drug problem;

(*e*) To publish the *World Drug Report*, with comprehensive and balanced information about the world drug problem, and to seek additional extrabudgetary resources for its publication in all official languages;

4. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the Programme by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, to enable it to continue, expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities;

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[72] The Convention, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air were adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000.

[73] See *Report of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna, 17–26 June 1987* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. A.

5. *Calls upon* the International Narcotics Control Board to increase efforts to implement all its mandates under international drug control conventions and to continue to cooperate with Governments, inter alia, by offering advice to Member States that request it;

6. *Notes* that the Board needs sufficient resources to carry out all its mandates, and therefore urges Member States to commit themselves in a common effort to assigning adequate and sufficient budgetary resources to the Board, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/20 of 23 July 1996, and emphasizes the need to maintain its capacity, inter alia, through the provision of appropriate means by the Secretary-General and adequate technical support by the Programme;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, in all regions of the world, and the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and encourages them to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, taking into account the outcome of the special session;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[74] and, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session, including on the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, and the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/66

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/595 and Corr.1 and 2, para. 35),[75] by a recorded vote of 146 to 1, with 26 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Lesotho

*Abstentions:* Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates

### 55/66. Working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the obligation of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming also their obligations under human rights instruments, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[76] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[77] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[77] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[78] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[79]

*Bearing in mind* the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[80] as well as the Beijing Declaration[81] and Platform for Action[82] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, and recalling the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[83]

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[74] A/55/126.

[75] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Monaco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela.

[76] Resolution 217 A (III).

[77] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[78] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[79] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[80] See resolution 48/104.

[81] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[82] Ibid., annex II.

[83] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

*Bearing in mind also* that crimes against women committed in the name of honour are a human rights issue and that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish the perpetrators of such crimes and to provide protection to the victims, and that the failure to do so constitutes a human rights violation,

*Aware* that inadequate understanding of the root causes of all violence against women, including crimes committed in the name of honour, and inadequate data on such violence hinder informed policy analysis, at both the domestic and the international levels, and efforts to eliminate such violence,

*Noting* general recommendation 19 concerning violence against women adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women,[84]

*Noting also* relevant paragraphs in recent reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences,[85] the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions[86] and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the independence of judges and lawyers,[87] and of the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on traditional practices affecting the health of women and the girl child,[88]

*Bearing in mind* relevant paragraphs in Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2000/31 and 2000/45, of 20 April 2000,[89] as well as in resolution 2000/10 of 17 August 2000 of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,[90]

*Emphasizing* that the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour requires greater efforts and commitment from Governments and the international community, inter alia, through international cooperation efforts, and civil society, including non-governmental and community organizations, and that fundamental changes in societal attitude are required, and underlining the importance of the empowerment of women as a tool,

1. *Expresses its concern* at the fact that women continue to be victims of various forms of violence, including those that are identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[83] and at the continuing occurrence in all regions of the world of such violence, including crimes against women committed in the name of honour, which take many different forms, and also expresses its concern at the fact that some perpetrators assume that they have some justification for committing such crimes;

2. *Welcomes* the activities of States aimed at the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, including the adoption of amendments to relevant national laws relating to such crimes, the effective implementation of such laws and national campaigns, all of which have already led to a decrease in the incidence of these crimes in some countries;

3. *Also welcomes* the efforts, such as concrete projects, undertaken by United Nations bodies, programmes and organizations, including the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, to address the issue of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, and encourages them to coordinate their efforts, and further welcomes the work carried out by civil society, including non-governmental organizations, such as women's organizations, grass-roots movements and individuals, in raising awareness of such crimes and their harmful effects;

4. *Calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To implement their relevant obligations under international human rights law and to implement specific international commitments, inter alia, under the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

(*b*) To intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate crimes against women committed in the name of honour, which take many different forms, by using legislative, educational, social and other measures, including the dissemination of information, and to involve, among others, public opinion leaders, educators, religious leaders, chiefs, traditional leaders and the media in awareness-raising campaigns;

(*c*) To encourage, support and implement measures and programmes aimed at increasing the knowledge and the understanding of the causes and consequences of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, among those responsible for enforcing the law and implementing policies, such as police personnel, judicial workers and health personnel;

(*d*) To establish, strengthen or facilitate, where possible, support services to respond to the needs of actual and potential victims by, inter alia, providing for them the appropriate protection, safe shelter, counselling, legal aid, rehabilitation and reintegration into society;

(*e*) To create, strengthen or facilitate institutional mechanisms so that victims and others can report such crimes in a safe and confidential environment, and encourages States to gather and disseminate statistical information on the occurrence of such crimes;

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[84] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/47/38), sect. I.

[85] E/CN.4/2000/68 and Add.1-5.

[86] See A/55/288.

[87] E/CN.4/2000/61 and Corr.1.

[88] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/11, E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/14 and E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/17.

[89] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[90] See E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/L.11/Add.1, chap. II, sect. A.

5. *Invites* the international community, including United Nations bodies, programmes and organizations, inter alia, through the technical assistance and advisory services programmes of the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, to support the efforts of all countries, at their request, aimed at strengthening institutional capacity for preventing crimes against women committed in the name of honour and at addressing their root causes;

6. *Encourages* the relevant human rights treaty bodies to continue to address this issue, where appropriate;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the subject of the present resolution, including on initiatives taken by States to work towards the elimination of the crimes in question.

## RESOLUTION 55/67

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/595 and Corr.1 and 2, para. 35)[91]

### 55/67. Traffic in women and girls

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[92] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[93] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[94] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[95] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[96] and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[97]

*Welcoming* the adoption by the General Assembly of the two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[98] in particular the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and the increasing number of Member States that have signed and ratified these Optional Protocols,

*Recalling* all previous resolutions on the problem of the traffic in women and girls adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,[99] as well as the conclusions on violence against women[100] adopted on 13 March 1998 by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-second session and the recommendations of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery[101] adopted on 21 August 1998 by the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities[102] at its fiftieth session,

*Reaffirming* the provisions of the outcomes of the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,[103] the International Conference on Population and Development,[104] the World Summit for Social Development,[105] the Fourth World Conference on Women,[106] the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", held in New York from 5 to 9 June 2000,[107] and the twenty-fourth special session of the Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond:

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[91] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

[92] Resolution 217 A (III).

[93] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[94] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[95] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[96] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[97] See resolution 48/104.

[98] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.

[99] Resolution 317 (IV).

[100] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/1998/27 and Corr.1), chap. I.

[101] E/CN.4/1999/4-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/45, chap. II, sect. A, resolution 1998/19, and E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/14, sect. VI.B.

[102] Subsequently renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (see Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256).

[103] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[104] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[105] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[106] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[107] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,[108] as well as the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held in Cairo from 29 April to 8 May 1995,[109] and the Tenth Congress,[110] pertaining to the traffic in women and girls,

*Welcoming* the inclusion of gender-related crimes in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, adopted on 17 July 1998 by the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court,[111]

*Noting* the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, in particular the elaboration of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[112]

*Reaffirming* that sexual violence and trafficking in women and girls for purposes of economic exploitation, sexual exploitation through prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation and contemporary forms of slavery are serious violations of human rights,

*Seriously concerned* at the increasing number of women and girl children, in particular from developing countries and from some countries with economies in transition, who are being trafficked to developed countries, as well as within and between regions and States, and acknowledging that the problem of trafficking also includes the victimizing of boys,

*Welcoming* bilateral and regional cooperation mechanisms and initiatives to address the problem of trafficking in women and girls,

*Welcoming also* the efforts of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations participating in the meeting of the Asian Regional Initiative against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, held in Manila from 29 to 31 March 2000, to develop a regional action plan against trafficking in persons, especially women and children,[113]

*Welcoming further* the efforts of the European Union to develop a comprehensive European policy and programmes on trafficking in human beings, as expressed in the conclusions of the European Council at its meeting held in Tampere, Finland, on 15 and 16 October 1999,[114] and the activities of the Council of Europe and of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in this field,

*Acknowledging* the work being done by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in compiling information on the scale and complexity of the problem of trafficking, in providing shelter for trafficked women and children and in effecting their voluntary repatriation to their countries of origin,

*Recognizing* that global efforts, including international cooperation and technical assistance programmes, to eradicate trafficking in persons, in particular women and children, demand strong political commitment by and the active cooperation of all Governments of countries of origin, transit and destination,

*Deeply concerned* about the unabated use of new information technologies, including the Internet, for purposes of prostitution, child pornography, paedophilia and any other forms of sexual exploitation of children, trafficking in women as brides and sex tourism,

*Gravely concerned* at the increasing activities of transnational criminal organizations and others that profit from international trafficking in women and children without regard to dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of domestic laws and international standards,

*Stressing once again* the need for Governments to provide standard humanitarian treatment to trafficked persons consistent with human rights standards,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on activities of United Nations bodies and other international organizations pertaining to the problem of trafficking in women and girls;[115]

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by human rights treaty bodies, the special rapporteurs and subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, other United Nations bodies, and international, intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their mandates, as well as non-governmental organizations, to address the problem of trafficking in women and girls, and encourages them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible;

3. *Urges* Governments to take appropriate measures to address the root factors, including external factors, that encourage trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriages and forced labour, in order to eliminate trafficking in women, including by

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[108] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[109] See A/CONF.169/16/Rev.1.

[110] See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10–17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

[111] See A/CONF.183/9, art. 8.

[112] Adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000 (annex II).

[113] See A/C.3/55/3, annex.

[114] See Tampere European Council, Presidency Conclusions (SN 200/99).

[115] A/55/322.

strengthening existing legislation with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and to punishing perpetrators, through both criminal and civil measures;

4. *Also urges* Governments to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in women and girls through a comprehensive anti-trafficking strategy consisting of, inter alia, legislative measures, prevention campaigns, information exchange, assistance and protection for and reintegration of the victims and prosecution of all the offenders involved, including intermediaries;

5. *Encourages* Member States to conclude bilateral, subregional, regional and international agreements, as well as undertake initiatives, including regional initiatives, to address the problem of trafficking in women and girls, such as the Action Plan for the Asia-Pacific region of the Asian Regional Initiative against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[113] the European Union initiatives on a comprehensive European policy and programmes on trafficking in human beings as expressed in the conclusions of the European Council at its meeting held in Tampere,[114] and the activities of the Council of Europe and of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in this field;

6. *Calls upon* all Governments to criminalize trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, in all its forms, to condemn and penalize all those offenders involved, including intermediaries, whether their offence was committed in their own or in a foreign country, while ensuring that the victims of those practices are not penalized, and to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of trafficking in their custody;

7. *Invites* Governments to consider setting up or strengthening a national coordinating mechanism, for example, a national rapporteur or an inter-agency body, with the participation of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to encourage the exchange of information and to report on data, root causes, factors and trends in violence against women, in particular trafficking;

8. *Urges* concerned Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support and allocate resources for programmes to strengthen preventive action, in particular education and campaigns to increase public awareness of the issue at the national and grass-roots levels;

9. *Calls upon* concerned Governments to allocate resources to provide comprehensive programmes designed to heal, rehabilitate and reintegrate into society and communities victims of trafficking, including through job training, legal assistance and health care, and by taking measures to cooperate with non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims;

10. *Encourages* Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to undertake campaigns aimed at clarifying opportunities, limitations and rights in the event of migration so as to enable women to make informed decisions and to prevent them from becoming victims of trafficking;

11. *Also encourages* Governments to intensify collaboration with non-governmental organizations to develop and implement programmes for effective counselling, training and reintegration into society of victims of trafficking, and programmes that provide shelter and helplines to victims or potential victims;

12. *Invites* Governments to take steps, including witness protection programmes, to enable women who are victims of trafficking to make complaints to the police and to be available when required by the criminal justice system, and to ensure that during this time women have access to social, medical, financial and legal assistance, and protection, as appropriate;

13. *Also invites* Governments to consider preventing, within the legal framework and in accordance with national policies, victims of trafficking, in particular women and girls, from being prosecuted for their illegal entry or residence, taking into account that they are victims of exploitation;

14. *Further invites* Governments to encourage Internet service providers to adopt or strengthen self-regulatory measures to promote the responsible use of the Internet with a view to eliminating trafficking in women and children, in particular girls;

15. *Stresses* the need for a global approach to eradicate trafficking in women and children and the importance, in this regard, of systematic data collection and comprehensive studies, and encourages Governments to develop systematic data-collection methods and to update continuously information on trafficking in women and girls, including the analysis of the modus operandi of trafficking syndicates;

16. *Urges* Governments to strengthen national programmes to combat trafficking in women and girls through sustained bilateral, regional and international cooperation, taking into account innovative approaches and best practices, and invites Governments, United Nations bodies and organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to undertake collaborative and joint research and studies on trafficking in women and girls that can serve as a basis for policy formulation or change;

17. *Invites* Governments, once again, with the support of the United Nations, to formulate training manuals for law enforcement and medical personnel and judicial officers who handle cases of trafficked women and girls, taking into account current research and materials on traumatic stress and gender-sensitive counselling techniques, with a view to sensitizing them to the special needs of victims;

18. *Invites* State parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[93] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[96] and the

International Covenants on Human Rights[94] to include information and statistics on trafficking in women and girls as part of their national reports to their respective committees;

19. *Encourages* Governments as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, the human rights treaty bodies, the special rapporteurs, especially the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants, and subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Human Rights and other relevant United Nations bodies, within their respective mandates, to participate in and contribute to the work of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its twenty-sixth session, in 2001, which will focus on the issue of trafficking;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile, as reference and guidance, successful interventions and strategies in addressing the various dimensions of the problem of trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, based on reports, research and other materials from within the United Nations, including the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, as well as from outside the United Nations, and to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

## RESOLUTION 55/68

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/595 and Corr.1 and 2, para. 35)[116]

### 55/68. Elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which, inter alia, calls for international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

*Recalling also* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[117] the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women,[118] the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[119] the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[120] the Beijing Declaration[121] and Platform for Action[122] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted on 25 June 1993 by the World Conference on Human Rights,[123] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[124]

*Reaffirming* the obligations of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, as enunciated in the Charter, and reaffirming also the obligations of States parties under international human rights instruments, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[125] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[125] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[126] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[127] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[128] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[129] and the International

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[116] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[117] Resolution 217 A (III).

[118] See resolution 2263 (XXII).

[119] See resolution 48/104.

[120] See resolution 1904 (XVIII).

[121] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[122] Ibid., annex II.

[123] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[124] See resolution 55/2.

[125] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[126] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[127] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[128] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[129] Resolution 39/46, annex.

Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[130]

*Reaffirming also* the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[131]

*Reaffirming further* the call for the elimination of violence against women and girls, especially all forms of commercial sexual exploitation as well as economic exploitation, including trafficking in women and children, female infanticide, crimes committed in the name of honour, crimes committed in the name of passion, racially motivated crimes, the abduction and sale of children, dowry-related violence and deaths, acid attacks and harmful traditional or customary practices, such as female genital mutilation and early and forced marriages,

*Stressing* the importance of the empowerment of women as a tool to eliminate all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session,

1. *Expresses deep concern* at the persistence of various forms of violence and crimes against women in all parts of the world, especially all forms of commercial sexual exploitation as well as economic exploitation, including trafficking in women and children, female infanticide, crimes committed in the name of honour, crimes committed in the name of passion, racially motivated crimes, the abduction and sale of children, dowry-related violence and deaths, acid attacks and harmful traditional or customary practices, such as female genital mutilation and early and forced marriages;

2. *Stresses* that all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[131] are obstacles to the advancement and empowerment of women, and reaffirms that violence against women both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

3. *Also stresses* the need to treat all forms of violence against women and girls of all ages as a criminal offence punishable by law, including violence based on all forms of discrimination;

4. *Reaffirms* that there is increased awareness of and commitment to preventing and combating violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session, and in this context welcomes various legal, administrative and other measures taken by Governments for their prevention and elimination, and calls for high priority to be attached to the further strengthening of such measures;

5. *Urges* Member States to strengthen awareness and preventive measures for the elimination of all forms of violence against women, whether occurring in public or private life, by encouraging and supporting public campaigns to enhance awareness about the unacceptability and the social costs of violence against women, inter alia, through educational and media campaigns in cooperation with educators, community leaders and the electronic and print media;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* of the work being done by non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations, community-based organizations and individuals, in raising awareness about the economic, social and psychological costs of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session, and in this regard encourages Governments to continue their support to the work of the non-governmental organizations in addressing this issue;

7. *Calls upon* States to fulfil their obligations under the relevant human rights instruments and implement the Beijing Platform for Action[122] as well as the outcome document of the twenty-third special session;

8. *Encourages* States parties to include in their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and other relevant treaty bodies, wherever possible, sex-disaggregated data and information on measures taken or initiated to eliminate all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session;

9. *Urges* relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, to assist countries, upon their request, in their efforts aimed at preventing and eliminating all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session, and in this regard expresses its appreciation of the work being done by the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Fund for Women and other relevant funds and programmes aimed at preventing and eliminating violence against women and girls;

10. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences, to further devote equal attention to all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session, in her work and her reports, within her mandate, to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on this matter to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

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[130] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[131] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

## RESOLUTION 55/69

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/595 and Corr.1 and 2, para. 35)[132]

### 55/69. Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as Article 8, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,

*Recalling also* the goal, contained in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[133] of the achievement of overall gender equality, particularly at the Professional level and above, by the year 2000,

*Recalling further* its resolution 54/139 of 17 December 1999 on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat,

*Taking note* of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/46 of 20 April 2000[134] on integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system, in particular paragraph 11, in which the Commission recognizes that gender mainstreaming will strongly benefit from the enhanced and full participation of women, including at the higher levels of decision-making in the United Nations system,

*Taking note also* of the recommendations made by the women heads of State and Government and women heads of United Nations agencies at their meeting, held on 5 September 2000, just prior to the Millennium Summit of the United Nations, to improve female representation within the United Nations system, especially at senior levels,[135]

*Welcoming* the decision of the Secretary-General to include, in the performance appraisal of managers, information on the opportunities presented for the selection of women candidates and on progress made in improving women's representation, including efforts made to identify women candidates,

*Taking into account* the continuing lack of representation or under- representation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries, including least developed countries and small island developing States, and from countries with economies in transition,

*Taking note with appreciation* of those departments and offices that have achieved the goal of gender balance, as well as of those departments that have met or exceeded the goal of 50 per cent in the selection of women candidates for vacant posts in the past year,

*Welcoming* progress made in improving the representation of women at some levels of the Secretariat, but expressing concern that progress in improving the representation of women at the senior and policy-making levels has slowed, that the percentage of women appointed and promoted to one particular level has declined, and also expressing concern at the slow incremental pace at which the overall representation of women in the Secretariat has increased,

*Expressing concern* that there are currently no women acting as special representatives or envoys,

*Noting* that the statistics on the representation of women in the organizations of the United Nations system are not fully up to date,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General and the actions contained therein;[136]

2. *Reaffirms* the urgent goal of achieving 50/50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at the senior and policy-making levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and also taking into account the continuing lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

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[132] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Venezuela.

[133] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[134] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[135] See www.womenworldleaders.org.

[136] A/55/399 and Corr.1.

3. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The ongoing personal commitment of the Secretary-General to meeting the goal of gender equality and his assurance that gender balance will be given the highest priority in his continuing efforts to bring about a new management culture in the Organization, including full implementation of the special measures for the achievement of gender equality;[137]

(*b*) The pledge of the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their efforts to meet the gender equality goals set out in the Beijing Declaration[138] and Platform for Action;[133]

(*c*) The actions agreed upon by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", to ensure the full and equal participation of women at all levels of decision-making in the United Nations system;[139]

(*d*) The inclusion of the objective of improving gender balance in action plans on human resources management for individual departments and offices, and encourages further cooperation between heads of departments and offices, the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat in the implementation of these plans, which include specific targets and strategies for improving the representation of women in individual departments;

(*e*) The designation of focal points for women in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the focal points are designated at a sufficiently high level and enjoy full access to senior management in the mission area;

(*f*) The continued provision of specific training programmes on gender mainstreaming and gender issues in the workplace, tailored to meet the special needs of individual departments, commends those heads of departments and offices who have launched gender training for their managers and staff, and strongly encourages those who have not yet organized such training to do so by the end of the biennium;

4. *Regrets* that the goal of 50/50 gender distribution will not be met by the end of the year 2000, and urges the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to realize significant progress towards this goal in the near future;

5. *Expresses concern* that, in five departments and offices of the Secretariat, women still account for less than 30 per cent of staff, and encourages the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to meet the goal of gender balance within all departments and offices of the Secretariat;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order, inter alia, to achieve the goal of 50/50 gender distribution with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter:

(*a*) To identify and attract suitably qualified women candidates, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in other Member States that are unrepresented or under-represented in the Secretariat and in occupations in which women are under-represented;

(*b*) To continue to monitor closely the progress made by departments and offices in meeting the goal of gender balance and to ensure that the appointment and promotion of suitably qualified women will be no less than 50 per cent of all appointments and promotions until the goal of 50/50 gender distribution is met, inter alia, through full implementation of the special measures for women and the further development of monitoring and assessment mechanisms to meet targets for improving women's representation;

(*c*) To enable the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women to monitor effectively and facilitate progress in the implementation of the departmental action plans for the achievement of gender balance and the special measures for women, inter alia, by ensuring access to the information required to carry out that work;

(*d*) To intensify his efforts to create, within existing resources, a gender-sensitive work environment supportive of the needs of his staff, both women and men, including the development of policies for flexible working time, flexible workplace arrangements and child-care and elder-care needs, as well as the provision of more comprehensive information to prospective candidates and new recruits on employment opportunities for spouses and the expansion of gender-sensitivity training in all departments, offices and duty stations;

(*e*) To strengthen further the policy against harassment, including sexual harassment, inter alia, by ensuring the full implementation of the guidelines for its application at Headquarters and in the field;

7. *Strongly encourages* the Secretary-General to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf, especially in matters related to peacekeeping, peace-building, preventive diplomacy and economic and social development, as well as in operational activities, including appointment as resident coordinators, and to appoint more women to other high-level positions;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to develop common approaches for retaining women, inter-agency mobility and the improvement of career development opportunities;

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[137] ST/AI/1999/9.

[138] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[139] See resolution S-23/3, annex.

9. *Strongly encourages* Member States:

(*a*) To support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to achieve the goal of 50/50 gender distribution, especially at senior and policy-making levels, by identifying and regularly submitting more women candidates for appointment to intergovernmental, judicial and expert bodies, by identifying and proposing national recruitment sources that will assist the organizations of the United Nations system in identifying suitable women candidates, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and by encouraging more women to apply for positions within the Secretariat, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the regional commissions, including positions in areas in which women are under-represented, such as peacekeeping, peace-building and other non-traditional areas;

(*b*) To identify women candidates for assignment to peacekeeping missions and to improve the representation of women in military and civilian police contingents;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution, inter alia, by providing up-to-date statistics on the number and percentage of women in all organizational units and at all levels throughout the United Nations system, and on the implementation of departmental action plans for the achievement of gender balance, to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fifth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/70

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/595 and Corr.1 and 2, para. 35)[140]

### 55/70. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 54/4 of 6 October 1999 and 54/137 of 17 December 1999,

*Bearing in mind* that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

*Affirming* that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

*Recalling* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[141] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the human rights of women and the girl child were an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

*Acknowledging* the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of the human rights of women, which includes the integration of the human rights of women into the mainstream of United Nations activities system-wide,

*Welcoming* the political declaration[142] and the outcome document[143] of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", in particular paragraph 68 (*c*) and (*d*) concerning the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto,

*Recalling* that in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[144] heads of State and Government resolved to implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[145]

*Welcoming* the progress made in the implementation of the Convention, but concerned about the remaining challenges,

*Welcoming also* the growing number of States parties to the Convention, which now stands at one hundred and sixty-six,

*Welcoming further* the adoption and opening for signature, ratification and accession of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[146] and the subsequent entry into force of the Optional Protocol, thereby fulfilling a goal of the Beijing Platform for Action,[147]

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[140] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela.

[141] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[142] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[143] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[144] See resolution 55/2.

[145] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[146] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[147] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

*Bearing in mind* the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that national reports should include information on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, in accordance with paragraph 323 of the Platform,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on its twenty-second and twenty-third sessions,[148]

*Expressing concern* at the great number of reports that are overdue and that continue to be overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[149] on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[145]

2. *Expresses disappointment* that universal ratification of the Convention has not been achieved by the year 2000, and urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of full compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention;

4. *Welcomes* the fact that, as at 22 September 2000, ten States had become parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[146] thereby allowing it to enter into force on 22 December 2000;

5. *Urges* States parties to consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol;

6. *Notes* that some States parties have modified their reservations, expresses satisfaction that some reservations have been withdrawn, and urges States parties to limit the extent of any reservations they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise incompatible with international treaty law, to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

7. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to make every possible effort to submit their reports on the implementation of the Convention in accordance with article 18 thereof and with the guidelines provided by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and to cooperate fully with the Committee in the presentation of their reports;

8. *Encourages* the Secretariat to extend further technical assistance to States parties, upon their request, in the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports, and invites Governments to contribute to these efforts;

9. *Commends* the Committee on its contributions to the effective implementation of the Convention;

10. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible in order for the amendment to enter into force;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the additional meeting time that allows the Committee to hold two sessions annually, each session of three weeks' duration and each preceded by a pre-session working group of the Committee;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with resolution 54/4, to provide the resources, including staff and facilities, necessary for the effective functioning of the Committee within its full mandate, in particular taking into account the entry into force of the Optional Protocol;

13. *Urges* Governments, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental as well as non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

14. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, as well as Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as appropriate, to continue to assist States parties, upon their request, in implementing the Convention, and in this regard encourages States parties to pay attention to the concluding comments as well as the general recommendations of the Committee;

15. *Encourages* all relevant parts of the United Nations system to continue to build women's knowledge and understanding of and capacity to utilize human rights instruments, in particular the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

16. *Welcomes* the submission of reports by the specialized agencies at the invitation of the Committee on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities and the contribution of non-governmental organizations to the work of the Committee, and encourages the agencies to continue to submit reports;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the implementation of the present resolution.

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[148] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/55/38), parts one and two.

[149] A/55/308.

## RESOLUTION 55/71

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/596, para. 10)[150]

### 55/71. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 50/203 of 22 December 1995, 51/69 of 12 December 1996, 52/100 of 12 December 1997, 53/120 of 9 December 1998 and 54/141 of 17 December 1999,

*Welcoming* the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", namely the "Political declaration"[151] and "Further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action",[152]

*Stressing* the importance of the outcome of the twenty-third special session, which has assessed the implementation of the Beijing Declaration[153] and Platform for Action,[154] identified obstacles and challenges thereto and proposed actions and initiatives to overcome them and achieve full and accelerated implementation,

*Deeply convinced* that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session are important contributions to the advancement of women worldwide in the achievement of gender equality and must be translated into effective action by all States, the United Nations system and other organizations concerned, as well as by non-governmental organizations,

*Stressing* the importance of strong, sustained political will and commitment at the national, regional and international levels in order to achieve full and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

*Recognizing* that the responsibility for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session rests primarily at the national level and that strengthened efforts are necessary in this respect, and reiterating that enhanced international cooperation is essential for the effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments contained in the "Political declaration"[151] and "Further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action",[152] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[155] and on the implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";[156]

3. *Calls upon* Governments, the relevant entities of the United Nations system within their respective mandates and all other relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to take effective action to achieve full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration[153] and Platform for Action[154] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, as elaborated in the above-mentioned documents;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, in collaboration with relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to facilitate the translation and dissemination of the outcome of the twenty-third special session, as broadly and as accessibly as possible;

5. *Strongly encourages* Governments to continue to support the role and contribution of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and women's organizations, in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

6. *Reaffirms further* its decision that the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, in accordance with their respective mandates and with General Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and other relevant resolutions, constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism that plays the primary role in the overall policy-making and follow-up and in coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

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[150] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairperson of the Committee.

[151] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[152] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[153] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[154] Ibid., annex II.

[155] A/55/293.

[156] A/55/341.

7. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to continue to promote a coordinated and integrated follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews, and requests the Council to intensify further its efforts to ensure that gender mainstreaming is an integral part of all its activities concerning integrated and coordinated follow-up to United Nations conferences, building upon agreed conclusions 1997/2 adopted by the Council on 18 July 1997;[157]

8. *Also invites* the Council to continue to further policy coordination and inter-agency cooperation towards the achievement of the objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, including by considering the dedication of specific segments of the Council to the advancement of women and implementation of the above-mentioned documents and by mainstreaming a gender perspective in all its work;

9. *Encourages* the Council to request the regional commissions, within their respective mandates and resources, to build up a database, to be updated regularly, in which all programmes and projects carried out in their respective regions by agencies or organizations of the United Nations system are listed, and to facilitate their dissemination, as well as the evaluation of their impact on the empowerment of women through the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action;

10. *Reaffirms* that the Commission on the Status of Women has a central role in assisting the Council in monitoring, assessing progress made in and accelerating, within the United Nations system, the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and in advising the Council thereon;

11. *Notes* that, at its forty-fifth session, in 2001, the Commission will develop a new multi-year programme of work, and in this respect requests the Secretary-General to report to the Commission with recommendations for the effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, including by enhancing the effectiveness of its work and its catalytic role in mainstreaming a gender perspective in United Nations activities;

12. *Recognizes* the importance attached to the regional and subregional monitoring of the global and regional platforms for action and of the implementation of the outcome of the twenty-third special session by regional commissions and other regional or subregional structures, within their mandates, in consultation with Governments, and calls for the promotion of further cooperation in that respect among Governments and, where appropriate, national machineries of the same region;

13. *Reaffirms* that, in order to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, adequate mobilization of resources at the national and international levels, as well as new and additional resources for the developing countries, in particular those in Africa and the least developed countries, from all available funding mechanisms, including multilateral, bilateral and private sources, will also be required;

14. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session in the countries with economies in transition requires continued national efforts and international cooperation and assistance;

15. *Reaffirms* that in order to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session a reformulation of policies and reallocation of resources may be needed, but that some policy changes may not necessarily have financial implications;

16. *Also reaffirms* that in order to ensure the effective implementation of the strategic objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective, including through the work of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and through the maintenance of gender units and focal points;

17. *Further reaffirms* that United Nations bodies that focus on gender issues, such as the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, have an important role to play in the implementation of the objectives of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly on the full range of tasks of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, including those that might arise from the implementation of the outcome of the twenty-third special session and from the entry into force of the Optional Protocol[158] to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[159] with a view to ensuring that the Division can effectively fulfil its tasks;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all United Nations personnel and officials at Headquarters and in the field, especially in field operations, receive training so that they mainstream a gender perspective in their work, including

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[157] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, para. 4.

[158] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[159] Resolution 34/180, annex.

gender impact analysis, and to ensure appropriate follow-up to such training;

20. *Requests* all bodies that deal with programme and budgetary matters, including the Committee for Programme and Coordination, to ensure that all programmes, medium-term plans and programme budgets visibly mainstream a gender perspective;

21. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to include information on measures taken to implement the outcome of the twenty-third special session, as well as the Beijing Platform for Action, in their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women under article 18 of the Convention;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to disseminate the outcome of the twenty-third special session as widely as possible in all official languages of the United Nations;

23. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women on follow-up to and progress in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'".

## RESOLUTION 55/72

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/597, para. 25)[160]

### 55/72. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

*The General Assembly*,

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council decision 2000/302 of 28 July 2000 concerning the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

*Taking note also* of the request regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee contained in the letter dated 11 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[161]

1. *Decides* to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from fifty-seven to fifty-eight States;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the additional member at its resumed organizational session for 2001.

## RESOLUTION 55/73

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/597, para. 25)[162]

### 55/73. New international humanitarian order

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/124 of 9 December 1998 and other pertinent resolutions[163] relating to the promotion of the new international humanitarian order and international cooperation in the humanitarian field,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the new international humanitarian order[164] and his previous reports[165] containing comments and views of Governments as well as of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

*Recalling* its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, pertaining to humanitarian assistance, and the annex thereto,

*Bearing in mind* the reports of the Secretary-General[166] submitted in the context of the Millennium Summit of the United Nations,

*Noting* the importance of adherence to internationally accepted norms and principles as well as the need to promote, as required, national and international legislation to meet actual and potential humanitarian challenges,

*Noting with deep concern* the continuing trend of systematic violations of refugee law, international humanitarian law and human rights instruments, which can lead ultimately to emergency situations,

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[160] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Mexico.

[161] E/2000/92.

[162] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Jordan, Kuwait, Panama and Thailand.

[163] Resolutions 36/136, 37/201, 38/125, 40/126, 42/120, 42/121, 43/129, 43/131, 45/100, 45/102, 47/106, 49/170 and 51/74.

[164] A/55/545.

[165] A/37/145, A/38/450, A/40/358 and Add.1 and 2, A/41/472, A/43/734 and Add.1, A/45/524, A/47/352, A/49/577 and Corr.1, A/51/454 and A/53/486.

[166] S/1999/957 and A/54/2000.

*Noting with appreciation* the increased attention of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to addressing the security needs of personnel responding to these emergencies,

*Noting with appreciation also* the emphasis placed by the Secretary-General on promoting strict adherence to refugee law, international humanitarian law and human rights instruments,

*Recognizing* that the ultimate aim of all humanitarian assistance should be to save human lives and facilitate the transition, at the appropriate time, to rehabilitation and reconstruction and to facilitate local capacity-building and institution-building, as necessary, in the affected countries and regions,

*Recognizing*, in addition, the urgent need further to strengthen international cooperation and coordination in the humanitarian field,

1. *Notes* the Secretary-General's continuing support of efforts to promote a new international humanitarian order;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to promote strict adherence to refugee law, international humanitarian law, human rights instruments and internationally accepted norms and principles in situations of armed conflict and complex emergencies;

3. *Urges* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and others concerned to extend cooperation and provide support to the efforts of the Secretary-General, inter alia, through the relevant United Nations agencies and organizational mechanisms set up to address the assistance and protection needs of victims of complex emergencies as well as the safety and security of United Nations and other humanitarian workers;

4. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties involved in complex humanitarian emergencies to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel so as to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian populations;

5. *Invites* Governments to make available to the Secretary-General, on a voluntary basis, information and expertise on humanitarian problems of concern to them, in order to identify opportunities for future action;

6. *Invites* the Independent Bureau for Humanitarian Issues to continue and to strengthen further its activities, including cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and the other relevant bodies of the United Nations system;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain in contact with Governments and the relevant international and non-governmental organizations and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the progress made concerning the promotion of a new international humanitarian order and compliance with refugee law, international humanitarian law and human rights instruments in armed conflicts and emergency situations.

## RESOLUTION 55/74

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/597, para. 25)[167]

### 55/74. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of her Office[168] and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its fifty-first session[169] and the conclusions and decisions contained therein,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/146 of 17 December 1999,

*Commending* the High Commissioner, her staff and their implementing partners for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities, paying tribute to those staff members whose lives have been endangered in the course of their duties, and strongly condemning the deaths and injuries and other forms of physical and psychological violence experienced by staff members as a consequence of generalized as well as targeted violence,

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[167] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[168] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/55/12).

[169] Ibid., *Supplement No. 12A* (A/55/12/Add.1).

*Expressing appreciation*, in this year which marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, for the work accomplished since its establishment in responding to the protection and assistance needs of refugees and in promoting durable solutions to their plight, and commending States for their cooperation and support,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its fifty-first session;[169]

2. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees of providing international protection to refugees and seeking permanent solutions to the problem of refugees, and reiterates the need for Governments to continue to facilitate the effective exercise of this function;

3. *Expresses sincere appreciation and gratitude* to Sadako Ogata for her unrelenting efforts throughout her tenure as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to promote innovative humanitarian solutions to the refugee problem in various parts of the world, and for her inspiring example in performing her functions in an effective and dedicated manner;

4. *Reaffirms* that the 1951 Convention[170] and the 1967 Protocol[171] relating to the Status of Refugees remain the foundation of the international refugee regime and recognizes the importance of their full application by States parties, notes with satisfaction that one hundred and forty States are now parties to one instrument or to both, welcomes the fact that an intergovernmental event involving those States is planned on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Convention, and encourages the Office of the High Commissioner and States to strengthen their efforts to promote broader accession to those instruments and their full implementation;

5. *Notes* that fifty-two States are now parties to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons[172] and that twenty-three States are parties to the 1961 Convention on the reduction of statelessness,[173] and encourages the High Commissioner to continue her activities on behalf of stateless persons;

6. *Reaffirms* that, as set out in article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[174] everyone has the right to seek and enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution, and calls upon all States to refrain from taking measures that jeopardize the institution of asylum, in particular by returning or expelling refugees or asylum-seekers contrary to international standards;

7. *Emphasizes* that the protection of refugees is primarily the responsibility of States, whose full and effective cooperation, action and political resolve are required to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to fulfil its mandated functions, welcomes the proposal of the Office of the High Commissioner to commence a process of global consultations on international protection, and requests a report thereon;

8. *Welcomes* measures taken by the Office of the High Commissioner to make protection effective, recognizing that international protection is a dynamic and action-oriented function, carried out in cooperation with States and other partners, inter alia, to promote and facilitate the admission, reception and treatment of refugees and to ensure protection-oriented solutions;

9. *Stresses* the importance of international solidarity, burden-sharing and international cooperation to share responsibilities and partnerships in reinforcing the international protection of refugees, urges all States and relevant non-governmental and other organizations, in conjunction with the Office of the High Commissioner, to cooperate and to mobilize resources with a view to reducing the heavy burden borne by States, in particular developing countries, that have received large numbers of asylum-seekers and refugees, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the economic, environmental and social impact of large-scale refugee populations, especially in developing countries;

10. *Condemns* all acts that pose a threat to the personal security and well-being of refugees and asylum-seekers, such as refoulement, unlawful expulsion and physical attacks, and calls upon all States of refuge, in cooperation with international organizations where appropriate, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection, including the humane treatment of asylum-seekers;

11. *Urges* States to uphold the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, inter alia, through effective measures to prevent the infiltration of armed elements, to identify and separate any such armed elements from refugee populations, to settle refugees in secure locations and to afford the Office of the High Commissioner and other appropriate humanitarian organizations prompt, unhindered and safe access to asylum-seekers, refugees and other persons of concern;

12. *Calls upon* States and all concerned parties to take urgently all possible measures to safeguard the physical security and property of the staff of the Office of the High Commissioner and other humanitarian personnel, to investigate fully any crime committed against them and to bring to justice persons responsible for such crimes;

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[170] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[171] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[172] Ibid., vol. 360, No. 5158.

[173] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

[174] Resolution 217 A (III).

13. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner, in cooperation with host countries and in coordination with other relevant United Nations bodies, further to develop and integrate appropriate security arrangements in its operations, and to allocate adequate resources for the safety and security of its staff and the persons under its mandate;

14. *Notes* that the 1994 Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel[175] is now in force, calls upon those States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the Convention, but notes in this regard that the Convention does not automatically apply to most humanitarian personnel, and therefore invites States to provide a timely response to the recommendation of the Secretary-General to extend the scope of legal protection to all United Nations and associated personnel through the development of a protocol to the 1994 Convention or by other appropriate means;[176]

15. *Urges* all States and relevant organizations to support the High Commissioner's search for durable solutions to refugee problems, including voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement in a third country, as appropriate, reaffirms that voluntary repatriation is the preferred solution to refugee problems, and calls upon countries of origin, countries of asylum, the Office of the High Commissioner and the international community to act in a spirit of burden-sharing and partnership to enable refugees to exercise their right to return home in safety and with dignity;

16. *Calls upon* all States to promote conditions conducive to the voluntary repatriation of refugees in safety and with dignity, including conditions furthering reconciliation and long-term development in countries of return, and to support the sustainable reintegration of returnees by providing countries of origin with necessary rehabilitation and development assistance in conjunction, as appropriate, with the Office of the High Commissioner, relevant mechanisms, including those within the United Nations system, and development agencies;

17. *Reiterates* the right of all persons to return to their country of origin, emphasizes in this regard the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon all States to facilitate the return of their nationals who have sought asylum and have been determined not to be in need of international protection, and affirms the need for the return of persons to be undertaken in a humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity, irrespective of the status of the persons concerned;

18. *Acknowledges* the desirability of comprehensive approaches by the international community, notably at the regional level, to the problems of refugees and displaced persons, and notes in this regard that capacity-building in countries of origin and countries of asylum can play an important role in addressing the root causes of refugee flows, strengthening emergency preparedness and response, promoting and building peace, and developing regional standards for the protection of refugees;

19. *Urges* States, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant organizations, to explore and support fully capacity-building initiatives as part of a comprehensive approach to addressing refugee issues and to take necessary measures to promote sustainable development and to ensure the success of capacity-building activities, and reiterates that such initiatives may include those which strengthen legal and judicial institutions and civil society, those which promote services for refugees, the observance of human rights, the rule of law and accountability and those which enhance the capacity of States to fulfil their responsibilities with respect to persons under the mandate of the Office of the High Commissioner;

20. *Reiterates its support* for the role of the Office of the High Commissioner in providing humanitarian assistance and protection to internally displaced persons on the basis of criteria enumerated in paragraph 16 of its resolution 53/125 of 9 December 1998, and underlines the continuing relevance of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement;[177]

21. *Calls upon* States to adopt an approach that is sensitive to gender-related concerns and to ensure that women whose claims to refugee status are based upon a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons enumerated in the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol, including persecution through sexual violence or other gender-related persecution, are recognized as refugees, and encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to continue and to strengthen its efforts for the protection of refugee women;

22. *Urges* States and relevant parties to respect and observe principles of international human rights and humanitarian and refugee law that are of particular relevance to safeguarding the rights of the child and adolescent refugees whose situation is particularly vulnerable to abuse, welcomes in this regard the adoption of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict[178] and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[179] and calls upon States to consider signing and ratifying them as a matter of priority;

23. *Underlines* the particular role of elderly refugees within the refugee family, welcomes the development by the Office of the High Commissioner of guidelines to address their special needs, and calls upon States and the Office of the High

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[175] Resolution 49/59, annex.

[176] See S/1999/957, para. 43, and A/54/154/Add.1-E/1999/94/Add.1, para. 13.

[177] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[178] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

[179] Ibid., annex II.

Commissioner to make renewed efforts to ensure that the rights, needs and dignity of elderly and disabled refugees are fully respected and that programmes are designed bearing in mind their special vulnerabilities;

24. *Recalls* that the family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and that it is entitled to protection by society and the State, and calls upon States, working in close collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner and other concerned organizations, to take measures to ensure that the refugee's family is protected, including through measures aimed at reuniting family members separated as a result of refugee flight;

25. *Calls upon* Governments and other donors to demonstrate their international solidarity and burden-sharing with countries of asylum, in particular developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries with limited resources that, owing to their location, host large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers, and urges Governments to respond promptly and adequately to the global appeal issued by the Office of the High Commissioner, presenting requirements under its annual programme budget, to support efforts to widen the donor base so as to achieve greater burden-sharing among donors and to assist the High Commissioner in securing additional and timely income from traditional governmental sources, other Governments and the private sector so as to ensure that the needs of persons under the mandate of the Office of the High Commissioner are fully met.

## RESOLUTION 55/75

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/597, para. 25)[180]

### 55/75. Ad hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the announcement of voluntary contributions to the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 1556 A (XV) of 18 December 1960 and 1729 (XVI) of 20 December 1961 on the convening of an ad hoc Committee of the Whole, under the chairmanship of the President of the General Assembly, as soon as practicable after the opening of each regular session of the Assembly, for the purpose of announcing pledges of voluntary contributions to the refugee programmes for the following year,

*Recalling also* that the ad hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the announcement of voluntary contributions to the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has been convened annually, under the chairmanship of the President of the General Assembly or his or her designated representative, at United Nations Headquarters, immediately following the debate on the report of the High Commissioner in the Third Committee,

*Noting* that the General Assembly, in its resolution 54/146 of 17 December 1999, endorsed the presentation of a unified annual programme budget of the Office of the High Commissioner,

*Noting also* that financial requirements under the annual programme budget for the programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner are presented in the global appeal issued late in November or early in December each year at Geneva, forming the basis for pledges in response to the information provided in the global appeal,

*Decides*, in order to improve and rationalize the funding mechanism following the adoption of the annual programme budget, that the ad hoc Committee of the General Assembly may be convened as from 2001 at Geneva, the headquarters of the Office of the High Commissioner.

## RESOLUTION 55/76

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/597, para. 25)[181]

### 55/76. Fiftieth anniversary of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and World Refugee Day

*The General Assembly*

1. *Commends* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for its leadership and coordination

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[180] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Canada, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia.

[181] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

of international action for refugees, and acknowledges the tireless efforts of the Office of the High Commissioner to provide international protection and assistance to refugees and other persons of concern and to promote durable solutions for their problems during the past fifty years;

2. *Pays tribute* to the dedication of United Nations humanitarian workers and associated personnel, the staff of the Office of the High Commissioner in the field, including local staff, who risk their lives in the performance of their duties;

3. *Reaffirms its support* for the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, on behalf of returnees, stateless persons and internally displaced persons;

4. *Notes* the crucial role of partnerships with Governments and international, regional and non-governmental organizations, as well as of the participation of refugees in decisions that affect their lives;

5. *Recognizes* that, by virtue of its activities on behalf of refugees and other persons of concern, the Office of the High Commissioner also contributes to promoting the purposes and principles of the United Nations, in particular those related to peace, human rights and development;

6. *Notes* that 2001 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[182] which sets out the fundamental concepts for international refugee protection;

7. *Also notes* that the Organization of African Unity has agreed that an international refugee day may coincide with Africa Refugee Day on 20 June;

8. *Decides* that, as from 2001, 20 June will be celebrated as World Refugee Day.

## RESOLUTION 55/77

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/597, para. 25)[183]

### 55/77. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/147 of 17 December 1999,

*Recalling also* the provisions of its resolution 2312 (XXII) of 14 December 1967, by which it adopted the Declaration on Territorial Asylum,

*Recalling further* the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969[184] and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[185]

*Recalling* the Khartoum Declaration[186] and the Recommendations on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa[187] adopted by the Organization of African Unity at the ministerial meeting held at Khartoum on 13 and 14 December 1998,

*Welcoming* decision CM/Dec.531 (LXXII) on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-second ordinary session, held at Lomé from 6 to 8 July 2000,[188]

*Welcoming also* the convening by the Organization of African Unity and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees of the Special Meeting of Governmental and Non-Governmental Technical Experts at Conakry from 27 to 29 March 2000, on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa, commending the comprehensive implementation plan adopted by the Special Meeting, and noting its endorsement by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-second ordinary session,[189]

*Commending* the First Ministerial Conference on Human Rights in Africa of the Organization of African Unity, held at Grand-Baie, Mauritius, from 12 to 16 April 1999, and recalling the attention paid to issues relevant to refugees and displaced persons in the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the Conference,

*Recalling* the sixth Seminar on International Humanitarian Law, convened by the Organization of African Unity and the International Committee of the Red Cross at Addis Ababa on 15 and 16 May 2000, and noting the endorsement of the recommendations of the Seminar by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-second ordinary session,[189]

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[182] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[183] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Mauritania (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela.

[184] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1001, No. 14691.

[185] Ibid., vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[186] A/54/682, annex I.

[187] Ibid., annex II.

[188] See A/55/286, annex I.

[189] Ibid., decision CM/Dec.531 (LXXII), para. 8.

*Recognizing* the contributions made by African States to the development of regional standards for the protection of refugees and returnees, and noting with appreciation that countries of asylum are hosting refugees in a humanitarian spirit and in a spirit of African solidarity and brotherhood,

*Recognizing also* the need for States to address resolutely the root causes of forced displacement and to create conditions that facilitate durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons, and stressing in this regard the need for States to foster peace, stability and prosperity throughout the African continent,

*Convinced* of the need to strengthen the capacity of States to provide assistance and protection for refugees, returnees and displaced persons and of the need for the international community, within the context of burden-sharing, to increase its material, financial and technical assistance to the countries affected by refugees, returnees and displaced persons,

*Acknowledging with appreciation* that some assistance is already rendered by the international community to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and host countries in Africa,

*Noting with great concern* that, despite all the efforts deployed so far by the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa, especially in the West African and Great Lakes regions and in the Horn of Africa, remains precarious,

*Stressing* that the provision of relief and assistance to African refugees by the international community should be on an equitable, non-discriminatory basis,

*Considering* that, among refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons, women and children are the majority of the population affected by conflict and bear the brunt of atrocities and other consequences of conflict,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[190] and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[191]

2. *Notes with concern* that the declining socio-economic situation, compounded by political instability, internal strife, human rights violations and natural disasters, has led to increased numbers of refugees and displaced persons in some countries of Africa, and remains particularly concerned about the impact of large-scale refugee populations on the security, socio-economic situation and environment of countries of asylum;

3. *Recalls* the commemoration in 1999 of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969,[184] and commends the convening by the Organization of African Unity and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees of the Special Meeting of Governmental and Non-Governmental Technical Experts at Conakry from 27 to 29 March 2000 to mark that anniversary;

4. *Encourages* African States to ensure the full implementation of and follow-up to the comprehensive implementation plan adopted by the Special Meeting and endorsed by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity;[189]

5. *Also encourages* African States to ensure the full implementation of and follow-up to the recommendations of the sixth Seminar on International Humanitarian Law, convened by the Organization of African Unity and the International Committee of the Red Cross at Addis Ababa on 15 and 16 May 2000;

6. *Calls upon* States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously the letter and the spirit of international humanitarian law, bearing in mind that armed conflict is one of the principal causes of forced displacement in Africa;

7. *Expresses its sincere appreciation and gratitude* to Sadako Ogata for her tireless efforts, throughout her tenure as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to address the plight of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa and for her inspiring example in performing her functions in an exemplary and dedicated manner;

8. *Expresses its gratitude and appreciation*, in this year which marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, for the work accomplished since its establishment, with the support of the international community, in assisting African countries of asylum and responding to the needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa for assistance and protection;

9. *Notes* the intergovernmental event planned in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[192] in 2001, and encourages African States parties to the Convention to participate actively in the event;

10. *Reaffirms* that the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol[193] relating to the Status of Refugees, as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remain the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa, encourages African States that have not yet done so to accede to those instruments, and calls upon States parties to the Conventions to reaffirm their commitment to their ideals and to respect and observe their provisions;

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[190] A/55/471.

[191] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/55/12).

[192] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[193] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

11. *Notes* the need for States to address the root causes of forced displacement in Africa, and calls upon African States, the international community and relevant United Nations organizations to take concrete action to meet the needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons for protection and assistance and to contribute generously to national projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight;

12. *Also notes* the link, inter alia, between human rights violations, poverty, natural disasters and environmental degradation and population displacement, and calls for redoubled and concerted efforts by States, in collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, to promote and protect human rights for all and to address these problems;

13. *Encourages* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, within their respective mandates, in the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing mediation and conflict resolution efforts carried out by African States, the Organization of African Unity and subregional organizations, as well as the establishment of regional mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution, and urges all relevant parties to address the humanitarian consequences of conflicts;

15. *Expresses its appreciation and strong support* for those African Governments and local populations that, in spite of the general deterioration of socio-economic and environmental conditions and overstretched national resources, continue to accept the additional burden imposed upon them by increasing numbers of refugees and displaced persons, in compliance with the relevant principles of asylum;

16. *Expresses its concern* about instances in which the fundamental principle of asylum is jeopardized by unlawful expulsion or refoulement or by threats to the life, physical security, integrity, dignity and well-being of refugees;

17. *Calls upon* States, in cooperation with international organizations, within their mandates, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection and, in particular, to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps is not compromised by the presence or the activities of armed elements;

18. *Notes* the proposal of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to commence a process of global consultations on the international refugee protection regime, and in this context invites African States to participate actively in this process so as to bring their regional perspective to bear, thus ensuring that adequate attention is paid to concerns that are specific to Africa;

19. *Deplores* the deaths and injuries and other forms of violence sustained by staff members of the Office of the High Commissioner and urges States, parties to conflict and all other relevant actors to take all necessary measures to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, to prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and to ensure their safety and security, calls upon States to investigate fully any crimes committed against humanitarian personnel and bring to justice persons responsible for such crimes, and calls upon organizations and aid workers to abide by the national laws and regulations of the countries in which they operate;

20. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the Organization of African Unity, subregional organizations and all African States, in conjunction with United Nations agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to strengthen and revitalize existing partnerships and forge new ones in support of the international refugee protection system;

21. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the international community and other concerned entities to intensify their support to African Governments through appropriate capacity-building activities, including training of relevant officers, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles, providing financial, technical and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees, strengthening emergency response and enhancing capacities for the coordination of humanitarian activities;

22. *Reaffirms* the right of return and also the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, as appropriate, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home;

23. *Notes with satisfaction* the voluntary return of millions of refugees to their homelands following the successful repatriation and reintegration operations carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner, with the cooperation and collaboration of countries hosting refugees and countries of origin, and looks forward to other programmes to assist the voluntary repatriation and reintegration of all refugees in Africa;

24. *Reiterates* that the Plan of Action adopted by the Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region, held at Bujumbura from 15 to 17 February 1995, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/149 of 21 December 1995, continues to be a viable framework for the resolution of the refugee and humanitarian problems in that region;

25. *Appeals* to the international community to respond positively, in the spirit of solidarity and burden-sharing, to the third-country resettlement requests of African refugees, and notes with appreciation that some African countries have offered resettlement places for refugees;

26. *Welcomes* the programmes carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner with host Governments, the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and the international community to address the environmental impact of refugee populations;

27. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum;

28. *Expresses its concern* about the long stay of refugees in certain African countries, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to keep its programmes under review, in conformity with its mandate in the host countries, taking into account the increasing needs of refugees;

29. *Emphasizes* the need for the Office of the High Commissioner to collate statistics, on a regular basis, on the number of refugees living outside refugee camps in certain African countries, with a view to evaluating and addressing the needs of those refugees;

30. *Urges* the international community, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing, to continue to fund generously the refugee programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the substantially increased needs of programmes in Africa, to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of the resources designated for refugees;

31. *Requests* all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to pay particular attention to meeting the special needs of refugee women and children and displaced persons, including those with special protection needs;

32. *Calls upon* States and the Office of the High Commissioner to make renewed efforts to ensure that the rights, needs and dignity of elderly refugees are fully respected and addressed through appropriate programme activities;

33. *Invites* the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons to continue his ongoing dialogue with Member States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in accordance with his mandate, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly;

34. *Expresses grave concern* about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, recalls in this regard the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[194] and urges the international community, led by relevant United Nations organizations, to contribute generously to national projects and programmes aimed at alleviating the plight of internally displaced persons;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, taking fully into account the efforts expended by countries of asylum, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions", and to present an oral report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2001.

## RESOLUTION 55/78

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/598, para. 14)[195]

### 55/78. The girl child

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/148 of 17 December 1999 and all previous relevant resolutions, including the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women, in particular those relevant to the girl child,

*Recalling also* all relevant United Nations conferences and the Declaration and Agenda for Action adopted by the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, held at Stockholm from 27 to 31 August 1996,[196] as well as the outcome documents of the recent five-year reviews of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the

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[194] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[195] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[196] A/51/385, annex.

International Conference on Population and Development[197] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[198]

*Deeply concerned* about discrimination against the girl child and the violation of the rights of the girl child, which often result in less access for girls to education, nutrition, physical and mental health care and in girls enjoying fewer of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence than boys and often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and to violence and harmful practices, such as female infanticide, incest, early marriage, prenatal sex selection and female genital mutilation,

*Recognizing* the need to achieve gender equality so as to ensure a just and equitable world for girls,

*Deeply concerned* that, in situations of poverty, war and armed conflict, girl children are among the victims most affected and that thus their potential for full development is limited,

*Concerned* that the girl child has furthermore become a victim of sexually transmitted diseases and the human immunodeficiency virus, which affects the quality of her life and leaves her open to further discrimination,

*Reaffirming* the equal rights of women and men as enshrined, inter alia, in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[199] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[200]

*Reaffirming also* the political declaration[201] and further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[202] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",

*Reaffirming further* the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[203]

1. *Stresses* the need for full and urgent implementation of the rights of the girl child as guaranteed to her under all human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[200] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[199] as well as the need for universal ratification of those instruments;

2. *Urges* States to consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[204]

3. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict[205] and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[206] and invites States to consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocols as a matter of priority with a view to their entry into force as soon as possible;

4. *Also welcomes* the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative launched by the Secretary-General at the World Education Forum;

5. *Urges* all Governments and the United Nations system to strengthen efforts bilaterally and with international organizations and private sector donors in order to achieve the goals of the World Education Forum, in particular that of eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, and for the implementation of the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative as a means of reaching this goal, and reaffirms the commitment contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[207]

6. *Calls upon* all States to take measures to address the obstacles that continue to affect the achievement of the goals set forth in the Beijing Platform for Action,[208] as contained in paragraph 33 of the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[202] where appropriate, including the strengthening of national mechanisms to implement policies and programmes for the girl child and, in some cases, to enhance coordination among responsible institutions for the realization of the human rights of girls, as indicated in the further actions and initiatives;

7. *Urges* all States to take all necessary measures and to institute legal reforms to ensure the full and equal enjoyment by the girl child of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, to take effective action against violations of those rights and freedoms and to base programmes and policies for the girl child on the rights of the child;

8. *Urges* States to enact and enforce strictly laws to ensure that marriage is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses, to enact and enforce strictly laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the

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[197] Resolution S-21/2, annex.

[198] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[199] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[200] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[201] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[202] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[203] See *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000*, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Paris, 2000.

[204] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[205] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

[206] Ibid., annex II.

[207] See resolution 55/2.

[208] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

minimum age for marriage and to raise the minimum age for marriage where necessary;

9. *Urges* all States to fulfil their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women as well as the commitment to implement the Beijing Platform for Action;

10. *Also urges* all States to enact and enforce legislation to protect girls from all forms of violence, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, female genital mutilation, rape, domestic violence, incest, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, child prostitution and child pornography, and to develop age-appropriate safe and confidential programmes and medical, social and psychological support services to assist girls who are subjected to violence;

11. *Calls upon* all States and international and non-governmental organizations, individually and collectively, to implement further the Beijing Platform for Action, in particular the strategic objectives relating to the girl child and including the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

12. *Urges* States to take special measures for the protection of war-affected girls and in particular to protect them from sexually transmitted diseases, such as human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, and gender-based violence, including rape and sexual abuse, torture, sexual exploitation, abduction and forced labour, paying special attention to refugee and displaced girls, and to take into account the special needs of the war-affected girl child in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes;

13. *Urges* all States and the international community to respect, protect and promote the rights of the child, taking into account the particular vulnerabilities of the girl child in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict situations, and calls for special initiatives designed to address all of the rights and needs of war-affected girls;

14. *Welcomes* the holding of the International Conference on War-Affected Children at Winnipeg, Canada, from 10 to 17 September 2000, and takes note with appreciation of the Winnipeg Agenda for War-Affected Children;[209]

15. *Urges* States to formulate comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, which should be widely disseminated and should provide targets and timetables for implementation, as well as effective domestic enforcement procedures through the establishment of monitoring mechanisms involving all parties concerned, including consultations with women's organizations, giving attention to the recommendations relating to the girl child of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences;

16. *Calls upon* Governments, civil society, including the media, and non-governmental organizations to promote human rights education and the full respect for and enjoyment of the human rights of the girl child, inter alia, through the translation, production and dissemination of age-appropriate information material on those rights to all sectors of society, in particular to children;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to ensure that all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, individually and collectively, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, take into account the rights and the particular needs of the girl child in the country programme of cooperation in accordance with the national priorities, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;[210]

18. *Requests* all human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and other human rights mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to adopt regularly and systematically a gender perspective in the implementation of their mandates and to include in their reports information on the qualitative analysis of violations of the human rights of women and girls, and encourages the strengthening of cooperation and coordination in that regard;

19. *Calls upon* States and international and non-governmental organizations to mobilize all necessary resources, support and efforts to realize the goals, strategic objectives and actions set out in the Beijing Platform for Action and the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

20. *Stresses* the importance of a substantive assessment of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action with a life-cycle perspective so as to identify gaps and obstacles in the implementation process and to develop further actions for the achievement of the goals of the Platform;

21. *Welcomes* the convening of the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

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[209] A/55/467-S/2000/973, annex.

[210] See A/53/226, paras. 72–77, and A/53/226/Add.1, paras. 88–98.

at Yokohama, Japan, from 17 to 20 December 2001, and invites Member States and observers to participate in the Congress;

22. *Encourages* the regional commissions and other regional organizations to carry out activities in support of the preparations for the Second World Congress;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that a gender perspective and the needs and rights of the girl child are integrated into the preparatory work for the special session of the General Assembly on the follow-up to the World Summit for Children in 2001, inter alia, by providing the General Assembly with a comprehensive report drawing on the experiences and outcomes of the five-year reviews of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the World Summit for Social Development, and the World Education Forum.

## RESOLUTION 55/79

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/598, para. 14)[211]

### 55/79. The rights of the child

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 54/148 and 54/149 of 17 December 1999, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/85 of 27 April 2000,[212]

*Bearing in mind* the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[213] emphasizing that the provisions of the Convention and other relevant human rights instruments must constitute the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and reaffirming that the best interest of the child shall be the primary consideration in all actions concerning children,

*Reaffirming* the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990,[214] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,[215] which, inter alia, states that national and international mechanisms and programmes for the defence and protection of children, in particular those in especially difficult circumstances, should be strengthened, including through effective measures to combat exploitation and abuse of children, such as female infanticide, harmful child labour, sale of children and organs, child prostitution and child pornography, and which reaffirms that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/93 of 7 December 1999, by which it decided to convene a special session in September 2001 to follow up the World Summit for Children, and stressing the importance of addressing the rights and needs of the child in the preparatory process of the special session and the special session itself,

*Profoundly concerned* that the situation of girls and boys in many parts of the world remains critical as a result of the persistence of poverty, social inequality, inadequate social and economic conditions in an increasingly globalized world economy, pandemics, in particular human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, natural disasters, armed conflict, displacement, exploitation, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination and inadequate legal protection, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

*Underlining* the need for mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes relating to children,

*Recognizing* the need for the realization of a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development, the protection of the child from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the provision of universal and equal access to primary education and the implementation of the commitments on the education of children contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[216]

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[211] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

[212] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[213] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[214] A/45/625, annex.

[215] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[216] See resolution 55/2, para. 19.

*Concerned* at the number of illegal adoptions, of children growing up without parents and of child victims of family and social violence, neglect and abuse,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[217]

*Recognizing* that partnership among Governments, international organizations and all sectors of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, is important to realizing the rights of the child,

*Stressing* the importance of integrating child-related issues into the work of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects and the special session of the General Assembly on the problem of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in all its aspects, to be held in 2001,

## I

## Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

1. *Once again urges* the States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[213] as a matter of priority with a view to reaching the goal of universal adherence as soon as possible;

2. *Invites* States to consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocols to the Convention[217] as a matter of priority with a view to their entry into force as soon as possible, bearing in mind the convening of the special session of the General Assembly to follow up the World Summit for Children in September 2001;

3. *Reiterates its concern* at the great number of reservations to the Convention, and urges States parties to withdraw reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention and to review on a regular basis any reservations with a view to withdrawing them;

4. *Calls upon* States parties to implement fully the Convention, stresses that the implementation of the Convention contributes to the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children, and recommends that a thorough assessment of ten years of implementation of the Convention be an essential element in the preparation of the special session to follow up the Summit;

5. *Urges* States to assure the child who is capable of forming his or her own views the right to express those views freely in all matters that affect him or her, the views being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child, and in this regard to involve children and young people in their efforts to implement the goals of the Summit and the Convention, as well as in other programmes relating to children and young people, as appropriate;

6. *Calls upon* States parties to cooperate closely with the Committee on the Rights of the Child and to comply in a timely manner with their reporting obligations under the Convention, in accordance with the guidelines elaborated by the Committee, and encourages States parties to take into account the recommendations made by the Committee in the implementation of the provisions of the Convention;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of appropriate staff and facilities for the effective and expeditious performance of the functions of the Committee, notes the temporary support given by the plan of action of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to strengthen the important role of the Committee in advancing the implementation of the Convention, and also requests the Secretary-General to make available information on the follow-up to the plan of action;

8. *Calls upon* States parties urgently to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to paragraph 2 of article 43 of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible in order for the amendment to enter into force, thus increasing the membership of the Committee from ten to eighteen experts, bearing in mind, inter alia, the additional workload of the Committee when the two Optional Protocols to the Convention enter into force;

9. *Invites* the Committee to continue to enhance its constructive dialogue with the States parties and its transparent and effective functioning;

10. *Recommends* that, within their mandates, all relevant human rights mechanisms and all other relevant organs and mechanisms of the United Nations system and the supervisory bodies of the specialized agencies pay attention to particular situations in which children are in danger and in which their rights are violated and that they take into account the work of the Committee, and encourages the further development of the rights-based approach adopted by the United Nations Children's Fund and further steps to increase system-wide coordination and inter-agency cooperation for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child;

11. *Encourages* the Committee, in monitoring the implementation of the Convention, to continue to pay attention to the needs of children in especially difficult circumstances;

12. *Urges* all States to assign priority to activities and programmes aimed at preventing the abuse of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and inhalants as well as preventing other addictions, in particular addiction to alcohol and tobacco,

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[217] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.

among children and young people, especially those in vulnerable situations, and urges all States to counter the use of children and young people in the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

13. *Reaffirms* the importance of ensuring adequate and systematic training in the rights of the child for professional groups working with and for children, including specialized judges, law enforcement officials, lawyers, social workers, medical doctors, health professionals and teachers, and of coordination among various governmental bodies involved in children's rights, and encourages States and relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to promote education and training in this regard;

14. *Encourages* Governments and relevant United Nations bodies, as well as relevant non-governmental organizations and child rights advocates, to contribute, as appropriate, to the web-based database launched by the United Nations Children's Fund so as to continue the provision of information on laws, structures, policies and processes adopted at the national level to translate the Convention into practice, and in this regard commends the Fund for its work to disseminate lessons learned in the implementation of the Convention;

## II

## Protection and promotion of the rights of children

### *Identity, family relations and birth registration*

1. *Calls upon* all States to intensify efforts to ensure the registration of all children immediately after birth, including through the consideration of simplified, expeditious and effective procedures;

2. *Also calls upon* all States to undertake to respect the right of the child to preserve his or her identity, including nationality, name and family relations as recognized by law, without unlawful interference and, where a child is illegally deprived of some or all of the elements of his or her identity, to provide appropriate assistance and protection with a view to re-establishing speedily his or her identity;

3. *Urges* all States to ensure, as far as possible, the right of the child to know and be cared for by his or her parents;

4. *Also urges* all States to ensure that a child shall not be separated from his or her parents against their will, except when the competent authorities, subject to judicial review, determine, in accordance with applicable law and procedures, that such separation is necessary in the best interest of the child, and, where alternative care is necessary, to promote family and community-based care in preference to placement in institutions, recognizing that such determination may be necessary in a particular case, such as one involving abuse or neglect of the child by the parents or one in which the parents are living separately and a decision must be made as to the child's place of residence;

5. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to ensure that the best interest of the child is the primary consideration in adoptions of children and to take all necessary measures to prevent and combat illegal adoptions and adoptions which do not follow the normal procedures;

6. *Also calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to address the problem of children growing up without parents, in particular orphaned children and children who are victims of family and social violence, neglect and abuse;

### *Health*

7. *Calls upon* all States and relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to pay particular attention to the development of sustainable health systems and social services to ensure the effective prevention of diseases, malnutrition, disabilities and infant and child mortality, including through prenatal and post-natal health care, as well as the provision of necessary medical treatment and health care to all children, taking into consideration the special needs of young children and girls, including prevention of common infectious diseases, the special needs of adolescents, including those relating to reproductive and sexual health and threats from substance abuse and violence, and the particular needs of children living in poverty, children in situations of armed conflict and children in other vulnerable groups, and to strengthen ways of empowering families and communities;

8. *Calls upon* all States to adopt all necessary measures to ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by children affected by disease and malnutrition, including protection from all forms of discrimination, abuse or neglect, in particular in the access to and provision of health care;

9. *Welcomes* the attention given by the Committee on the Rights of the Child to the realization of the highest attainable standards of health and access to health care and to the rights of children affected by human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS);

10. *Urges* States to give particular emphasis to the prevention of HIV infection in young children and strengthen efforts to prevent adolescents and women from becoming HIV-infected, inter alia, by including HIV/AIDS prevention in educational curricula and educational programmes consistent with the epidemiology of the diseases in each State, and by supporting wide-scale voluntary HIV testing and counselling programmes for pregnant women, together with services for HIV-infected pregnant women to reduce the risk of transmitting the virus from HIV/AIDS-infected pregnant women to their children;

11. *Urges* all States to take all necessary measures to protect children infected and/or affected by HIV/AIDS from all forms of discrimination, stigma, abuse and neglect, in particular in the access to and provision of health, education and social services, with a view to the realization of their rights;

12. *Calls upon* the international community, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify their support of national efforts against HIV/AIDS aimed at providing assistance to children infected or affected by the epidemic, including those orphaned as a result of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, focusing in particular on the worst-hit regions of Africa and areas in which the epidemic is severely setting back national development gains, calls upon them also to give importance to the treatment, care and support of children infected with HIV/AIDS, and invites them to consider further involving the private sector;

*Education*

13. *Calls upon* States to recognize the right to education on the basis of equal opportunity by making primary education compulsory and ensuring that all children have access to free and relevant primary education, as well as by making secondary education generally available and accessible to all, and in particular by the progressive introduction of free education;

14. *Reaffirms* the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum[218] and calls for its full implementation, and in this regard invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue to implement its mandated role in coordinating Education for All partners and maintaining their collaborative momentum;

15. *Calls upon* all States to eliminate the gender gap in education, reaffirms the commitment contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration to ensure equal access for girls and boys to all levels of education and the completion of a full course of primary schooling by children everywhere, boys and girls alike, by 2015,[216] and in this regard encourages the implementation of the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative launched by the Secretary-General at the World Education Forum;

16. *Calls upon* States to ensure that emphasis is given to the qualitative aspects of education, that the education of the child is carried out, that States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[213] develop and implement programmes for the education of the child, in accordance with articles 28 and 29 of the Convention, and that education is directed, inter alia, to the development of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to the preparation of the child for a responsible life in a free society in a spirit of understanding, peace, tolerance, gender equality and friendship among peoples, ethnic, national and religious groups and persons of indigenous origin, and to ensure that children, from an early age, benefit from education on values, attitudes, modes of behaviour and ways of life that will enable them to resolve any dispute peacefully and in a spirit of respect for human dignity and of tolerance and non-discrimination, bearing in mind the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;[219]

17. *Calls upon* all States to take all appropriate measures to prevent racist, discriminatory and xenophobic attitudes and behaviour by means of education, keeping in mind the important role that children have to play in changing such practices;

18. *Also calls upon* all States to remove educational disparities and make education accessible to children living in poverty, children living in remote areas, children with special educational needs, children affected by armed conflict and children requiring special protection, including refugee children, migrant children, street children, children deprived of their liberty, indigenous children and children belonging to minorities;

19. *Calls upon* States, educational institutions and the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to develop and implement gender-sensitive strategies to address the particular needs of the girl child in education;

*Freedom from violence*

20. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States to protect children from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

21. *Calls upon* States to take all appropriate measures to prevent and protect children from all forms of violence, including physical, mental and sexual violence, torture, child abuse, abuse by police, other law enforcement authorities and employees and officials in detention centres or welfare institutions, including orphanages, and domestic violence;

22. *Also calls upon* States to investigate and submit cases of torture and other forms of violence against children to the competent authorities for the purpose of prosecution and to impose appropriate disciplinary or penal sanctions against those responsible for such practices;

23. *Requests* all relevant human rights mechanisms, in particular special rapporteurs and working groups, within their

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[218] See *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000*, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Paris, 2000.

[219] Resolution 53/243.

mandates, to pay attention to the special situations of violence against children, reflecting their experiences in the field;

24. *Takes note* of the general discussion on State violence against children held by the Committee on the Rights of the Child on 22 September 2000,[220] as well as its recommendation to undertake a comprehensive study on the issue of violence against children, exploring its different forms and identifying its causes, its extent and its impact on children, and welcomes the forthcoming general discussion on violence suffered by children in schools and within the family to be held in September 2001;

## III

## Promotion and protection of the rights of children in particularly vulnerable situations and non-discrimination against children

*Plight of children working and/or living on the streets*

1. *Calls upon* Governments to seek comprehensive solutions to the problems that cause children to work and/or live on the streets and to implement appropriate programmes and policies for the protection and the rehabilitation and reintegration of those children, bearing in mind that such children are particularly vulnerable to all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect;

2. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that basic social services, notably education, are provided for children in order to divert them from and to address the economic imperatives that lead to involvement in harmful, exploitative and abusive activity;

3. *Strongly urges* all Governments to guarantee respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular the right to life, to take urgent and effective measures to prevent the killing of children working and/or living on the streets, to combat torture and abusive treatment and violence against them and to bring the perpetrators to justice;

4. *Calls upon* all States to take the situation of children working and/or living on the streets into account when preparing reports for submission to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and encourages the Committee and other relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, within their existing mandates, to pay increased attention to the question of children working and/or living on the streets;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to support, through effective international cooperation, including technical advice and assistance, the efforts of States to improve the situation of children working and/or living on the streets;

*Refugee and internally displaced children*

6. *Urges* Governments to improve the implementation of policies and programmes for the protection, care and well-being of refugee and internally displaced children and for the provision of basic social services, including access to education, with the necessary international cooperation, in particular with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons, in accordance with the obligations of States under the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[213]

7. *Calls upon* all States and other parties to armed conflict, as well as United Nations bodies and organizations, to give urgent attention, in terms of protection and assistance, to the fact that refugee and internally displaced children are particularly exposed to risks in connection with armed conflict, such as being forcibly recruited or subjected to sexual violence, abuse or exploitation;

8. *Expresses its deep concern* about the growing number of unaccompanied and/or separated refugee and internally displaced children, and calls upon all States and United Nations bodies and agencies and other relevant organizations to give priority to programmes for family tracing and reunification and to continue to monitor the care arrangements for unaccompanied and/or separated refugee and internally displaced children;

*Children with disabilities*

9. *Encourages* the working group on the rights of children with disabilities established pursuant to the decision of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to put into practice as soon as possible the recommendations arising from the day of general discussion on the rights of children with disabilities, held on 6 October 1997,[221] including the drafting of a plan of action on children with disabilities, in close cooperation with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission for Social Development on Disability and other relevant parts of the United Nations system;

10. *Calls upon* all States to take all necessary measures to ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by children with disabilities, and to develop and enforce legislation against their discrimination so as to ensure dignity, promote self-reliance and facilitate the child's active participation in the community, including effective access to educational and health services;

*Migrant children*

11. *Calls upon* States to protect all human rights of migrant children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children,

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[220] See CRC/C/SR.640 and 650.

[221] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/53/41), sect. IV.C.2; and ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/55/41), sect. IV.C.2.

and to ensure that the best interest of the child shall accordingly be a primary consideration, and encourages the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant United Nations bodies, within their respective mandates, to pay particular attention to the conditions of migrant children in all States and, as appropriate, to make recommendations to strengthen their protection;

12. *Also calls upon* States to cooperate fully with and to assist the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants in addressing the particularly vulnerable conditions of migrant children;

## IV

## Prevention and eradication of the sale of children and of their sexual exploitation and abuse, including child prostitution and child pornography

1. *Welcomes* the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[222] and expresses its support for her work;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all necessary human and financial assistance to enable her to discharge her mandate fully;

3. *Calls upon* States to continue to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur and to give full consideration to all of her recommendations;

4. *Invites* further voluntary contributions through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and support for the work of the Special Rapporteur for the effective fulfilment of her mandate;

5. *Welcomes* the large number of signatories to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[223] and calls upon all States to consider signing and ratifying it as a matter of priority with a view to its entry into force as soon as possible, bearing in mind the convening of the special session of the General Assembly to follow up the World Summit for Children in September 2001;

6. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[213] to prevent the abduction of, the sale of or the trafficking in children for any purpose or in any form, including the transfer of the organs of the child for profit, and to protect children from all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, in accordance with articles 35 and 34 of the Convention;

7. *Calls upon* States to take all appropriate steps to combat the misuse of new information and communication technologies, including the Internet, for trafficking in children and for purposes of all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, in particular the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and notes that the use of such technologies can also contribute to preventing and eradicating such phenomena;

8. *Also calls upon* States to criminalize and to penalize effectively all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse of children, including within the family or for commercial purposes, paedophilia, child pornography and child prostitution, including child sex tourism, while ensuring that the children who are victims of such practices are not penalized, and to take effective measures to ensure the prosecution of offenders, whether local or foreign, by the competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country in which the abuse takes place, in accordance with due process of law;

9. *Calls upon* all Member States to take all necessary steps to strengthen international cooperation by means of multilateral, regional and bilateral arrangements for the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution and punishment of those responsible for acts involving the sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote international cooperation and coordination among their authorities, national and international non-governmental organizations and international organizations, as appropriate;

10. *Requests* States to increase cooperation and concerted action at the national, regional and international levels to prevent and dismantle networks that traffick in children;

11. *Stresses* the need to combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices against children, including through preventive and enforcement measures that target customers or individuals who sexually exploit or abuse children;

12. *Calls upon* States to enact, enforce, review and revise, as appropriate, laws and to implement policies, programmes and practices to protect children from and to eliminate all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, including commercial sexual exploitation, taking into account the particular problems posed by the use of the Internet in this regard;

13. *Encourages* Governments to facilitate the active participation of child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse in the development and implementation of strategies to protect children from sexual exploitation and abuse;

14. *Encourages* continued regional and interregional efforts, with the objective of identifying best practices and issues requiring particularly urgent action, and notes the convening of the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children at Yokohama, Japan, from 17

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[222] See A/55/297.

[223] Resolution 54/263, annex II.

to 20 December 2001, which is to be hosted by the Government of Japan in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund and which is aimed at reviewing progress in implementing the Declaration and Agenda for Action adopted by the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, held at Stockholm from 27 to 31 August 1996;[224]

15. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations bodies and agencies to allocate appropriate resources for the rehabilitation of child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse and to take all appropriate measures to promote their full recovery and social reintegration;

## V

## Protection of children affected by armed conflict

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the impact of armed conflict on children,[225] and takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict;[226]

2. *Expresses its support* for the work of the Special Representative in the fulfilment of his mandate, as established in paragraphs 35 to 37 of General Assembly resolution 51/77 of 12 December 1996, in particular in raising worldwide awareness and mobilizing official and public opinion for the protection of children affected by armed conflict in order to promote respect for the rights and needs of children in conflict and post-conflict situations;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and all relevant parts of the United Nations system, including the Special Representative and the United Nations Children's Fund, to intensify further their efforts to continue to develop a concerted approach to the rights, protection and welfare of children affected by armed conflict, including, as appropriate, in the preparations for the field visits of the Special Representative and in the follow-up to such visits;

4. *Calls upon* all States and other parties concerned to continue to cooperate with the Special Representative in implementing the commitments that they have undertaken and to consider carefully all of the recommendations of the Special Representative and address the issues identified;

5. *Welcomes* the continued support for and voluntary contributions to the work of the Special Representative in the fulfilment of his mandate;

6. *Also welcomes* the large number of signatories to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict,[227] and calls upon all States to consider signing and ratifying it as a matter of priority with a view to its entry into force as soon as possible, bearing in mind the convening of the special session of the General Assembly to follow up the World Summit for Children in September 2001;

7. *Urges* all States and other parties to armed conflict to respect international humanitarian law and to put an end to any form of targeting of children and to attacking sites that usually have a significant presence of children, calls upon States parties to respect fully the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[228] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[229] and calls upon all parties to armed conflict to take all measures required to protect children from acts that constitute violations of international humanitarian law, including prosecution by States, within their national legal framework, of those responsible for such violations;

8. *Recognizes*, in this regard, the contribution of the establishment of the International Criminal Court to ending impunity for perpetrators of certain crimes committed against children, as defined in the Statute of the Court,[230] which include those involving sexual violence or child soldiers, and thus to the prevention of such crimes;

9. *Stresses* the importance of all relevant United Nations actors in the field improving their reporting, within their respective mandates, concerning the situation of children affected by armed conflict and giving additional attention to this question;

10. *Condemns* the abduction of children in situations of armed conflict and into armed conflict, urges States, international organizations and other concerned parties to take all appropriate measures to secure the unconditional release, rehabilitation, reintegration and reunification with their families of all abducted children, and urges States to bring the perpetrators to justice;

11. *Calls upon* States to ensure that the adoption of children in situations of armed conflict is guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child[213] and that the best interest of the child is always envisaged as a paramount consideration;

12. *Urges* States and all other parties to armed conflict to end the use of children as soldiers, to ensure their demobilization and effective disarmament and to implement effective measures for their rehabilitation, physical and psychological recovery and reintegration into society, further encourages efforts by, inter alia, regional organizations, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental

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[224] A/51/385, annex.

[225] See A/55/442.

[226] A/55/163-S/2000/712.

[227] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

[228] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[229] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[230] See A/CONF.183/9, art. 8.

organizations to bring an end to the use of children as soldiers in armed conflict, and emphasizes that no support shall be given to those who systematically abuse or violate the rights of children during armed conflicts;

13. *Underlines* the importance of including measures to ensure the rights of the child, inter alia, in the areas of health and nutrition, formal, informal or non-formal education, physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration, in emergency and other humanitarian assistance policies and programmes;

14. *Notes* the importance of the third open debate held in the Security Council, on 26 July 2000, on children and armed conflict and the undertaking provided by the Council to give special attention to the protection, welfare and rights of children when taking action aimed at maintaining peace and security, and reaffirms the essential role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in the promotion and protection of the rights and welfare of children;

15. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to ensure the full, safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and the delivery of humanitarian assistance to all children affected by armed conflict;

16. *Welcomes* agreed conclusions 1999/1 adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 23 July 1999, in which the Council, inter alia, calls for systematic, concerted and comprehensive inter-agency efforts on behalf of children, as well as adequate and sustainable resource allocation, to provide both immediate emergency assistance to and long-term measures for children throughout all the phases of an emergency;[231]

17. *Urges* States to implement effective measures for the rehabilitation, physical and psychological recovery and reintegration into society of all child victims in cases of armed conflict, invites the international community to assist in this endeavour, and further emphasizes the importance of giving systematic consideration to the special needs and particular vulnerability of the girl child during conflicts and in post-conflict situations;

18. *Calls upon* States and relevant United Nations bodies to continue to support national and international mine-action efforts, including by means of financial contributions, mine-awareness programmes, victim assistance and child-centred rehabilitation, and welcomes the positive effects on children of concrete legislative measures with respect to anti-personnel mines;

19. *Invites* States, multilateral donors and the private sector to cooperate and to commit the resources necessary for the early development of new and more efficient mine-detection and mine-clearance technologies for assistance in mine action;

20. *Notes with concern* the impact of small arms and light weapons on children in situations of armed conflict, in particular as a result of their illicit production and traffic, and calls upon States to address this problem, inter alia, during the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, to be held in 2001;

21. *Recommends* that, whenever sanctions are imposed, their impact on children be assessed and monitored and that humanitarian exemptions be child-focused and formulated with clear guidelines for their application;

22. *Calls upon* States, relevant United Nations bodies and agencies and regional organizations to integrate the rights of the child into all activities in conflict and post-conflict situations, including training programmes and emergency relief operations, country programmes and field operations aimed at promoting peace and preventing and resolving conflict, as well as the negotiation and implementation of peace agreements, and, given the long-term consequences for society, underlines the importance of including specific provisions for children, including resourcing, in peace agreements and in arrangements negotiated by parties;

23. *Calls upon* all States, in accordance with the norms of international humanitarian law, to integrate in the training and gender-sensitized education programmes of their armed forces, including those for peacekeeping, instruction on responsibilities towards the civilian population, in particular women and children;

24. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to encourage the involvement of young people in activities concerning the protection of children affected by armed conflict, including programmes for reconciliation, peace consolidation, peace-building and children-to-children networks;

25. *Welcomes* the holding of the International Conference on War-Affected Children at Winnipeg, Canada, from 10 to 17 September 2000, and notes with appreciation the Winnipeg Agenda for War-Affected Children[232] and efforts by regional organizations, in particular the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Union, the Economic Community of West African States, the Organization of American States and the Organization of African Unity, to include prominently the rights and protection of children affected by armed conflict in their policies and programmes;

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[231] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI, para. 5.

[232] A/55/467-S/2000/973, annex.

### VI

### Progressive elimination of child labour

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development;

2. *Welcomes* the adoption by the International Labour Organization, at the eighty-seventh session of the International Labour Conference, held at Geneva from 1 to 17 June 1999, of the Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (Convention No. 182), and calls upon all States to consider ratifying it;

3. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying the conventions of the International Labour Organization relating to child labour, in particular the Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour, 1930 (Convention No. 29) and the Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, 1973 (Convention No. 138), and to implement those conventions;

4. *Calls upon* all States to translate into concrete action their commitment to the progressive and effective elimination of child labour contrary to accepted international standards, and urges them, inter alia, to eliminate immediately the worst forms of child labour as set out in the 1999 International Labour Organization Convention No. 182;

5. *Also calls upon* all States to assess and examine systematically the magnitude, nature and causes of child labour and to elaborate and implement strategies for the elimination of child labour contrary to accepted international standards, giving special attention to specific dangers faced by girls, as well as to the rehabilitation and social reintegration of the children concerned;

6. *Recognizes* that primary education is one of the main instruments for reintegrating child workers, calls upon all States to recognize the right to education by making primary education compulsory and to ensure that all children have equal access to free primary education as a key strategy to prevent child labour, and recognizes, in particular, the important role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund in this regard;

7. *Calls upon* all States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation as a means of assisting Governments in preventing or combating violations of the rights of the child and in attaining the objective of eliminating child labour contrary to accepted international standards;

8. *Calls upon* all States to strengthen cooperation and coordination at the national and international levels to address effectively the problem of child labour, in close cooperation with, inter alia, the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund;

### VII

*Decides*:

(*a*) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the rights of the child containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[213] and the problems addressed in the present resolution;

(*b*) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the impact of armed conflict on children to submit to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights reports containing relevant information on the situation of children affected by armed conflict, bearing in mind existing mandates and reports of relevant bodies;

(*c*) To continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of the child".

## RESOLUTION 55/80

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/599, para. 8)[233]

## 55/80. International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/150 of 17 December 1999 and previous resolutions on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,

*Recalling also* that the goal of the Decade is to strengthen international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people in such areas as human rights, the environment, development, education and health and that the theme of the Decade is "Indigenous people: partnership in action",

*Recognizing* the importance of consultation and cooperation with indigenous people in planning and implementing the programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,[234] the need for adequate financial support from the international community, including support from within the United Nations system, and the need for adequate coordination and communication channels,

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[233] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela.

[234] Resolution 50/157, annex.

*Urging* all parties to continue to intensify their efforts to achieve the goals of the Decade,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;[235]

2. *Affirms its conviction* of the value and diversity of the cultures and forms of social organization of indigenous people and its conviction that the development of indigenous people within their countries will contribute to the socio-economic, cultural and environmental advancement of all the countries of the world;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening the human and institutional capacity of indigenous people to develop their own solutions to their problems;

4. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as coordinator for the Decade:

(*a*) To continue to promote the objectives of the Decade, taking into account, in the fulfilment of her functions, the special concerns of the indigenous people;

(*b*) To give due regard to the dissemination, from within existing resources and voluntary contributions, of information on the situation, cultures, languages, rights and aspirations of indigenous people and, in that context, to consider the possibility of organizing projects, special events, exhibitions and other activities addressed to the public, in particular to young people;

(*c*) To submit, through the Secretary-General, an annual report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the programme of activities for the Decade;

5. *Reaffirms* the adoption of a declaration on the rights of indigenous people as a major objective of the Decade, and underlines the importance of effective participation by indigenous representatives in the open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights charged with developing a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people, established pursuant to Commission resolution 1995/32 of 3 March 1995;[236]

6. *Welcomes* the decision of the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2000/22 of 28 July 2000, to establish a Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues as a subsidiary organ of the Council, thereby fulfilling an important objective of the Decade, and encourages all parties concerned to engage in the necessary preparations for the establishment of the Forum;

7. *Encourages* Governments to support the Decade by:

(*a*) Preparing relevant programmes, plans and reports in relation to the Decade, in consultation with indigenous people;

(*b*) Seeking means, in consultation with indigenous people, of giving indigenous people greater responsibility for their own affairs and an effective voice in decisions on matters that affect them;

(*c*) Establishing national committees or other mechanisms involving indigenous people to ensure that the objectives and activities of the Decade are planned and implemented on the basis of full partnership with indigenous people;

(*d*) Contributing to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;

(*e*) Contributing, together with other donors, to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations in order to assist indigenous representatives in participating in the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and the open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights charged with elaborating a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people;

(*f*) Considering contributing, as appropriate, to the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean, in support of the goals of the Decade;

(*g*) Identifying resources for activities designed to implement the goals of the Decade, in cooperation with indigenous people and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

8. *Invites* United Nations financial and development institutions, operational programmes and the specialized agencies and secretariats, as well as other regional and international organizations, in accordance with the existing procedures of their governing bodies:

(*a*) To give increased priority and resources to improving the conditions of indigenous people, with particular emphasis on the needs of those people in developing countries, including through the preparation of specific programmes of action for the implementation of the goals of the Decade, within their areas of competence;

(*b*) To launch special projects, through appropriate channels and in cooperation with indigenous people, to strengthen their community-level initiatives and to facilitate the exchange of information and expertise among indigenous people and other relevant experts;

(*c*) To designate focal points for the coordination of activities related to the Decade with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

and commends those institutions, programmes, agencies and regional and international organizations that have already done so;

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[235] A/55/268.

[236] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

9. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General ensure coordinated follow-up to the recommendations concerning indigenous people of relevant United Nations conferences, namely, the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992, the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held at Istanbul, Turkey, from 3 to 14 June 1996, and the World Food Summit, held at Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996, and other relevant international conferences;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of the participation of indigenous people in United Nations world conferences and their national, regional and other preparatory processes, in particular the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in South Africa in 2001, and encourages Member States to facilitate the participation of their indigenous people, inter alia, by considering including representatives of indigenous people in their delegations;

11. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit, through the Secretary-General, a report on the implementation of the programme of activities for the Decade to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People".

## RESOLUTION 55/81

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/600, para. 26)[237]

### 55/81. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions concerning the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and its resolutions on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[238] most recently resolution 53/131 of 9 December 1998,

*Bearing in mind* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[239] in particular section II.B of the Declaration, relating to equality, dignity and tolerance,

*Reiterating* the need to intensify the struggle to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination throughout the world, especially its most brutal forms,

*Recalling* its resolution 52/111 of 12 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance no later than 2001,

*Recalling also* its resolution 53/132 of 9 December 1998, in which it decided to observe 2001 as the International Year of Mobilization against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance,

*Taking note* of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/14 of 17 April 2000 on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,[240]

*Reiterating* the importance of the Convention, which is one of the most widely accepted human rights instruments adopted under the auspices of the United Nations,

*Stressing* the importance of achieving universal ratification of the Convention, which will contribute to the fight against racism and racial discrimination,

*Mindful* of the importance of the contributions of the Committee to the effective implementation of the Convention and to the efforts of the United Nations to combat racism and all other forms of discrimination based on race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin,

*Noting* that the reports submitted by States parties under the Convention contain, inter alia, information about the causes of, as well as measures to combat, contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

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[237] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cape Verde, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[238] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[239] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[240] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

*Emphasizing* the obligation of all States parties to the Convention to take legislative, judicial and other measures in order to secure full implementation of the provisions of the Convention,

*Recalling* its resolution 47/111 of 16 December 1992, in which it welcomed the decision, taken on 15 January 1992 by the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[241] to amend paragraph 6 of article 8 of the Convention and to add a new paragraph, as paragraph 7 of article 8, with a view to providing for the financing of the Committee from the regular budget of the United Nations, and reiterating its deep concern that the amendment to the Convention has not yet entered into force,

*Stressing* the importance of enabling the Committee to function smoothly and to have all necessary facilities for the effective performance of its functions under the Convention,

## I

## Reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on its fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth[242] and its fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh sessions;[243]

2. *Commends* the Committee for its continuing efforts to contribute to the effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[238] especially the examination of reports under article 9 and action on communications under article 14 of the Convention, which contribute to the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

3. *Calls upon* States parties to fulfil their obligation, under paragraph 1 of article 9 of the Convention, to submit their periodic reports on measures taken to implement the Convention in due time;

4. *Expresses its concern* at the fact that a great number of reports are overdue and continue to be overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention;

5. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention whose reports are seriously overdue to avail themselves of the advisory services and technical assistance that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights can provide, upon their request, for the preparation of the reports;

6. *Commends* the Committee for its continuing contribution to the prevention of racial discrimination, and welcomes its relevant action thereon;

7. *Encourages* the Committee to continue to contribute fully to the implementation of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and its revised Programme of Action,[244] including by continuing to cooperate and exchange information with United Nations bodies and mechanisms and intergovernmental organizations, in particular with the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as well as with non-governmental organizations;

8. *Encourages* States parties to continue to include a gender perspective in their reports to the Committee, and invites the Committee to take into account a gender perspective in the implementation of its mandate;

9. *Takes note with interest* of the contributions by the Committee to the preparatory process for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, including undertaking a series of studies, making suggestions for the agenda and draft programme of action of the World Conference, and preparing an assessment of the best practices of States parties in combating racial discrimination;

10. *Invites* the Committee to continue to participate actively in the preparatory process for the World Conference and at the Conference itself;

11. *Encourages* all States, relevant United Nations bodies, international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations to draw attention to the Convention and to the work of the Committee during the information and awareness-raising campaign for the World Conference and the International Year of Mobilization against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

## II

## Financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;[245]

2. *Expresses its profound concern* about the fact that a number of States parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[238] have still

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[241] See CERD/SP/45, annex.

[242] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 18* and addendum (A/54/18 and Add.1).

[243] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 18* and addendum (A/55/18 and Add.1).

[244] Resolution 49/146, annex.

[245] A/55/266.

not fulfilled their financial obligations, as shown in the report of the Secretary-General, and strongly appeals to all States parties that are in arrears to fulfil their outstanding financial obligations under article 8, paragraph 6, of the Convention;

3. *Strongly urges* States parties to the Convention to accelerate their domestic ratification procedures with regard to the amendment to the Convention concerning the financing of the Committee and to notify the Secretary-General expeditiously in writing of their agreement to the amendment, as decided upon at the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination on 15 January 1992,[241] endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/111 and further reiterated at the Sixteenth Meeting of States Parties on 16 January 1996;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure adequate financial arrangements and to provide the necessary support, including an adequate level of Secretariat assistance, in order to ensure the functioning of the Committee and to enable it to cope with its increasing amount of work;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite those States parties to the Convention that are in arrears to pay the amounts in arrears, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

### III

### Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[246] on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;[238]

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the number of States that have ratified the Convention or acceded thereto, which now stands at one hundred and fifty-six;

3. *Reaffirms once again its conviction* that ratification of or accession to the Convention on a universal basis and the implementation of its provisions are necessary for the realization of the objectives of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and for action beyond the Decade;

4. *Urges* all States that have not yet become parties to the Convention to ratify it or accede thereto as soon as possible, bearing in mind the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001;

5. *Urges* States to limit the extent of any reservation they lodge to the Convention and to formulate any reservation as precisely and as narrowly as possible in order to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise contrary to international treaty law, to review their reservations on a regular basis with a view to withdrawing them, and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

6. *Requests* the States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider the possibility of making the declaration provided for in article 14 of the Convention;

7. *Decides* to consider, at its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Elimination of racism and racial discrimination", the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on its fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth and its sixtieth and sixty-first sessions, the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee and the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention.

## RESOLUTION 55/82

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/600, para. 26)[247]

## 55/82. Measures to be taken against political platforms and activities based on doctrines of superiority which are based on racial discrimination or ethnic exclusiveness and xenophobia, including, in particular, neo-Nazism

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* that the United Nations emerged from the struggle against nazism, fascism, aggression and foreign occupation, and that the people expressed their resolve in the Charter of the United Nations to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

*Aware* of the determination proclaimed by the peoples of the world in the Charter to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

*Convinced* that any doctrine of superiority based on racial differentiation is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous, and that there is no justification for racial discrimination, in theory or in practice, anywhere,

*Noting with appreciation* the efforts undertaken by various regional organizations against political platforms and activities based on doctrines of superiority which are based on racial discrimination or ethnic exclusiveness and xenophobia, including, in particular, neo-Nazism,

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[246] A/55/203.

[247] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Cuba, Kazakhstan and Russian Federation.

*Noting with regret* that in the contemporary world there continue to exist various manifestations of neo-Nazi activities, as well as other political platforms and activities based on doctrines of superiority which are based on racial discrimination or ethnic exclusiveness and xenophobia, which entail contempt for the individual or a denial of the intrinsic dignity and equality of all human beings and of equality of opportunity in the civil, political, economic and social and cultural spheres and in social justice,

*Deeply alarmed* at the recent intensification of activities of neo-Nazi groups and organizations,

*Noting with concern* the widening use by such groups and organizations of the opportunities provided by scientific and technological progress, including the Internet global computer network, to promote racist and xenophobic propaganda aimed at inciting racial hatred and to collect funds to sustain violent campaigns against multi-ethnic societies throughout the world,

*Noting* that the use of such technologies can also contribute to combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

*Expressing its serious concern* at the rise in many parts of the world of doctrines based on racial discrimination or ethnic exclusiveness and at the growing coordination of activities based on such doctrines in society at large,

*Recalling* its resolutions 2331 (XXII) of 18 December 1967, 2545 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, 35/200 of 15 December 1980, 36/162 of 16 December 1981, 37/179 of 17 December 1982, 38/99 of 16 December 1983, 39/114 of 14 December 1984, 41/160 of 4 December 1986 and 43/150 of 8 December 1988,

*Recalling also* Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1983/28 of 7 March 1983,[248] 1984/42 of 12 March 1984,[249] 1985/31 of 13 March 1985,[250] 1986/61 of 13 March 1986,[251] 1988/63 of 10 March 1988[252] and 1990/46 of 6 March 1990,[253]

*Taking into consideration* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,[254]

*Welcoming* the convening of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001,

1. *Again resolutely condemns* political platforms and activities based on doctrines of superiority which are based on racial discrimination or ethnic exclusiveness and xenophobia, including, in particular, neo-Nazism, which entail abuse of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Expresses its determination* to resist such political platforms and activities which can undermine the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and of equality of opportunity;

3. *Urges* States to take all available measures in accordance with their obligations under international human rights instruments to combat political platforms and activities based on doctrines of superiority which are based on racial discrimination or ethnic exclusiveness and xenophobia, including, in particular, neo-Nazism;

4. *Calls upon* all Governments to promote and encourage, especially among young people, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as to promote awareness of and oppose political platforms and activities based on doctrines of superiority which are based on racial discrimination or ethnic exclusiveness and xenophobia, including, in particular, neo-Nazism;

5. *Urges* all States to consider the adoption, as a matter of high priority, of appropriate measures to eradicate activities that lead to violence and condemn any dissemination of ideas based on doctrines of superiority which are based on racial discrimination or ethnic exclusiveness and xenophobia, including, in particular, neo-Nazism, consistent with their national legal systems and in accordance with the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[255] the International Covenants on Human Rights[256] and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;[257]

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance information on the measures taken by Member States against

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[248] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1983, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1983/13 and Corr.1), chap. XXVII, sect. A.

[249] Ibid., *1984, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1984/14 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[250] Ibid., *1985, Supplement No. 2* (E/1985/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[251] Ibid., *1986, Supplement No. 2* (E/1986/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[252] Ibid., *1988, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/1988/12 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[253] Ibid., *1990, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/1990/22 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[254] See A/55/304.

[255] Resolution 217 A (III).

[256] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[257] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

political platforms and activities based on doctrines of superiority which are based on racial discrimination or ethnic exclusiveness and xenophobia, including, in particular, neo-Nazism.

## RESOLUTION 55/83

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/600, para. 26)[258]

### 55/83. Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/153 of 17 December 1999, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/14 of 17 April 2000,[259]

*Stressing* that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993[260] attaches importance to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance,

*Convinced* that racism, as one of the exclusionist phenomena plaguing many societies, requires resolute action and cooperation for its eradication,

*Having examined* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including its conclusions and recommendations,[261]

*Deeply concerned* that, despite continued efforts, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and acts of violence persist and even grow in magnitude, incessantly adopting new forms, including tendencies to establish policies based on racial, religious, ethnic, cultural and national superiority or exclusivity,

*Particularly alarmed* at the increase in racist violence in many parts of the world, inter alia, as a result of resurgent activities of associations established on the basis of racist and xenophobic platforms and charters, as reflected in the report of the Special Rapporteur, and at the persisting use of those platforms and charters to promote or incite racist ideologies,

*Deeply concerned* that those advocating racism and racial discrimination misuse new communication technologies, including the Internet, to disseminate their repugnant views,

*Noting* that the use of such technologies can also contribute to combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

*Conscious* of the fundamental difference between, on the one hand, racism and racial discrimination as governmental policy or resulting from official doctrines of racial superiority or exclusivity and, on the other hand, other manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance that are increasingly visible in segments of many societies and are perpetrated by individuals or groups, some of which manifestations are directed against migrant workers and members of their families,

*Reaffirming*, in this regard, the responsibility of Governments for safeguarding and protecting the rights of individuals within their jurisdiction against crimes perpetrated by racist or xenophobic individuals or groups,

*Recognizing* both the challenges and the opportunities in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in an increasingly globalized world,

*Noting with concern* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance may be aggravated by, inter alia, inequitable distribution of wealth, marginalization and social exclusion,

*Deeply concerned* that racism and racial discrimination against migrant workers continue to increase despite the efforts undertaken by the international community to protect the human rights of migrant workers and members of their families,

*Noting* that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in its general recommendation XV (42) of 17 March 1993[262] concerning article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[263] holds that the prohibition of the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or racial hatred is compatible with the right to freedom of opinion and expression as outlined in article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[264] and in article 5 of the Convention,

*Noting also* that the reports that the States parties submit under the Convention contain, inter alia, information about the causes of, as well as measures to combat, contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

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[258] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[259] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[260] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[261] See A/55/304.

[262] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/48/18), chap. VIII, sect. B.

[263] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[264] Resolution 217 A (III).

*Noting with concern* the existence of multiple discrimination, in particular against women,

*Particularly alarmed* at the rise of racist and xenophobic ideas in political circles, in the sphere of public opinion and in society at large,

*Noting with appreciation* that the Special Rapporteur will continue to pay attention to the rise of racist and xenophobic ideas in political circles, in the sphere of public opinion and in society at large,

*Underlining* the importance of urgently eliminating growing and violent trends of racism and racial discrimination, and conscious that any form of impunity for crimes motivated by racist and xenophobic attitudes plays a role in weakening the rule of law and democracy and tends to encourage the recurrence of such crimes, and requires resolute action and cooperation for its eradication,

*Recognizing* that failure to combat racial discrimination and xenophobia, especially by public authorities and politicians, is a factor encouraging their perpetuation in society,

*Emphasizing* the importance of creating conditions that foster greater harmony and tolerance within societies,

1. *Reaffirms* the proclamation of 2001 as the International Year of Mobilization against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;[265]

2. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to carry out, promote and disseminate activities and action within the framework of the commemorative year in order to strengthen its impact and ensure its success, in particular the outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

3. *Expresses its full support and appreciation* for the work of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, encourages its continuation, and takes note with appreciation of the report of the Special Rapporteur;[261]

4. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue his exchange of views with Member States, United Nations organs and the specialized agencies, other relevant mechanisms and non-governmental organizations in order to further their effectiveness and mutual cooperation;

5. *Endorses* the request by the Commission on Human Rights to the Special Rapporteur to examine the issue of political platforms which promote or incite racial discrimination and the violation of human rights and to submit recommendations thereon to the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference at its second session;[266]

6. *Welcomes* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur on the need to hold international consultations at the governmental level with a view to combating the misuse of the Internet for racist purposes, and stresses the importance of international law enforcement cooperation in this area;

7. *Commends* the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination for its role in the effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[263] which contributes to the fight against contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

8. *Reaffirms* that acts of violence against others stemming from racism do not constitute expressions of opinion but rather offences;

9. *Declares* that racism and racial discrimination are among the most serious violations of human rights in the contemporary world and must be combated by all available means;

10. *Expresses its profound concern* about and unequivocal condemnation of all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular all racist violence, including related acts of random and indiscriminate violence;

11. *Also expresses its profound concern* about and unequivocal condemnation of all forms of racism and racial discrimination, including propaganda, activities and organizations based on doctrines of superiority of one race or group of persons that attempt to justify or promote racism and racial discrimination in any form;

12. *Further expresses its profound concern* about and condemnation of manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against, and stereotyping of, migrant workers and members of their families, persons belonging to minorities and members of vulnerable groups in many societies;

13. *Notes with great concern* that, despite the efforts undertaken by the international community at various levels, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other related forms of intolerance, ethnic antagonism and acts of violence are showing signs of increase in many parts of the world, and that the number of associations established on the basis of racist and

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[265] Resolution 53/132, sect. III.

[266] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A, resolution 2000/14.

xenophobic charters is increasing, as reflected in the report of the Special Rapporteur;

14. *Encourages* all States to include in their educational curricula and social programmes at all levels, as appropriate, knowledge of and tolerance and respect for foreign cultures, peoples and countries;

15. *Recognizes* that the increasing gravity of different manifestations of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia in various parts of the world requires a more integrated and effective approach on the part of the relevant mechanisms of United Nations human rights machinery;

16. *Encourages* Governments to take appropriate measures to eradicate all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

17. *Calls upon* all States to review and, where necessary, revise their immigration policies with a view to eliminating all discriminatory policies and practices against migrants that are inconsistent with relevant international human rights instruments;

18. *Condemns* the misuse of print, audio-visual and electronic media and new communication technologies, including the Internet, to incite violence motivated by racial hatred;

19. *Recognizes* that Governments should implement and enforce appropriate and effective legislation to prevent acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, thereby contributing to the prevention of human rights violations;

20. *Calls upon* all Governments and intergovernmental organizations, with the assistance of non-governmental organizations, as appropriate, to continue to supply relevant information to the Special Rapporteur to enable him to fulfil his mandate;

21. *Commends* non-governmental organizations for the action that they have taken against racism and racial discrimination and for the continuous support and assistance that they have provided to the victims of racism and racial discrimination;

22. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur with a view to enabling him to fulfil his mandate, including the examination of incidents of contemporary forms of racism and racial discrimination, inter alia, against blacks, Arabs and Muslims, xenophobia, Negrophobia, anti-Semitism and related intolerance;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all of the necessary human and financial assistance to carry out his mandate efficiently, effectively and expeditiously and to enable him to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/84

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/600, para. 26)[267]

### 55/84. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the convening of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its objectives, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, of achieving international cooperation in solving problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

*Reaffirming also* its firm determination and its commitment to eradicate totally and unconditionally racism in all its forms and racial discrimination and its conviction that racism and racial discrimination constitute a total negation of the purposes and principles of the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[268]

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[269] and the Convention against Discrimination in Education adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 14 December 1960,[270]

*Noting* the efforts of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination since its establishment in 1970 to promote the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,

*Recalling* the outcome of the two World Conferences to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, held at Geneva in 1978[271] and in 1983,[272]

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[267] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[268] Resolution 217 A (III).

[269] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[270] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 429, No. 6193.

[271] See *Report of the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Geneva, 14–25 August 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.XIV.2).

[272] See *Report of the second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Geneva, 1–12 August 1983* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.XIV.4 and corrigendum).

*Welcoming* the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, and, in particular, the attention given in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[273] to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance,

*Stressing* the importance and sensitivity of the activities of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

*Recalling with satisfaction* the proclamation, in resolution 48/91 of 20 December 1993, of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which began in 1993, and the adoption, in resolution 49/146 of 23 December 1994, of the revised Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

*Noting with grave concern* that, despite the efforts of the international community, the principal objectives of the two previous Decades have not been attained and that millions of human beings continue to the present day to be the victims of varied forms of racism and racial discrimination,

*Noting with great concern* that, despite the efforts undertaken by the international community at various levels, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, ethnic antagonism and acts of violence are showing signs of increase in many parts of the world and that the number of associations established on the basis of racist and xenophobic platforms and charters is increasing, as reflected in the report of the Special Rapporteur,[274]

*Deeply concerned* that, despite continuing efforts, contemporary forms of racism and racial discrimination, many forms of discrimination against, inter alia, blacks, Arabs, Muslims and Christians, xenophobia, Negrophobia, anti-Semitism and related intolerance persist or are even growing in magnitude, incessantly adopting new forms, including tendencies to establish policies based on racial, religious, ethnic, cultural and national superiority or exclusivity,

*Noting with concern* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance may be aggravated by, inter alia, inequitable distribution of wealth, marginalization and social exclusion,

*Recognizing* that the promotion of tolerance and respect for cultural diversity is an important factor, among others, in eliminating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

*Alarmed* that technological developments in the field of communications, including the Internet, continue to be utilized by various groups engaged in violent activity to promote racist and xenophobic propaganda aimed at inciting racial hatred and to collect funds to sustain violent campaigns against multi-ethnic societies throughout the world,

*Noting* that the use of such technologies can also contribute to combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

*Having considered* the report submitted by the Secretary-General[275] within the framework of the implementation of the Programme of Action,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/154 of 17 December 1999, in which it requested the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session concrete proposals on how to ensure the financial and personnel resources required for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

*Recognizing* the importance of strengthening national legislation and institutions for the promotion of racial harmony and for the effective enforcement of such legislation,

*Remaining firmly convinced* of the need to take more effective and sustained measures at the national and international levels for the elimination of all forms of racism and racial discrimination,

*Deeply concerned* that the phenomenon of racism and racial discrimination against migrant workers continues to increase, despite the efforts made by the international community to improve the protection of the human rights of migrant workers and members of their families,

*Recalling* the adoption at its forty-fifth session of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[276]

*Acknowledging* that indigenous people are at times victims of particular forms of racism and racial discrimination,

*Noting* with concern the existence of multiple discrimination, in particular against women,

*Stressing* the importance of urgently eliminating growing and violent trends of racism and racial discrimination, and conscious that any form of impunity for crimes motivated by racist and xenophobic attitudes plays a role in weakening the rule of law and democracy and tends to encourage the recurrence of such crimes, and requires resolute action and cooperation for its eradication,

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[273] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[274] See A/55/304.

[275] A/55/285.

[276] Resolution 45/158, annex.

## I

## Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and coordination of activities

1. *Welcomes* the report submitted by the Secretary-General;[275]

2. *Reaffirms* that racism and racial discrimination are among the most serious violations of human rights in the contemporary world, and expresses its firm determination and its commitment to eradicate, by all available means, racism in all its forms and racial discrimination;

3. *Recognizes* that Governments implement and enforce appropriate and effective legislation to prevent acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, thereby contributing to the prevention of human rights violations;

4. *Urges* all Governments to take all necessary measures to combat new forms of racism, in particular by constantly adapting the means provided to combat them, especially in the legislative, judicial, administrative, educational and information fields;

5. *Calls upon* all States resolutely to bring to justice the perpetrators of crimes motivated by racism, and calls upon those that have not done so to consider including racist motivation as an aggravating factor for the purposes of sentencing;

6. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to assign high priority to the follow-up to programmes and activities for combating racism and racial discrimination, consistent with the need to ensure the effective preparation of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General in his reports on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance to accord special attention to and provide information on the situation of migrant workers and members of their families in this regard;

8. *Calls upon* all Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families[276] as a matter of priority;

9. *Commends* all States that have ratified or acceded to the international instruments to combat racism and racial discrimination, especially the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[269] and the Convention against Discrimination in Education;[270]

10. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in order to achieve its universal ratification;

11. *Urges* States to limit the extent of any reservation that they lodge to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, to formulate any reservation as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the objective and purpose of the Convention or otherwise incompatible with international treaty law, to review their reservations on a regular basis with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the objective and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full compliance of States parties with the obligations that they have accepted under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;

13. *Urges* all States parties to intensify efforts to meet the obligations that they have accepted under article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, with due regard to the principles contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[268] and to article 5 of the Convention, with respect to:

(*a*) Declaring an offence punishable by law any dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, incitement to racial discrimination and all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin, and the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof;

(*b*) Declaring illegal and prohibited organizations and organized and all other propaganda activities that promote and incite racial discrimination, and recognizing participation in such organizations or activities as an offence punishable by law;

(*c*) Not permitting public authorities or public institutions, whether national or local, to promote or incite racial discrimination;

14. *Encourages* the mass media to promote ideas of tolerance and understanding among peoples and different cultures;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to draw attention to the effects of racial discrimination on minorities and migrant workers and members of their families, especially children and women, in the fields of education, training and employment and to submit in his report specific recommendations for the implementation of measures to combat such discrimination;

16. *Recognizes* the need for adequate support and financial resources for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session concrete proposals on how to ensure the financial and personnel resources required

for the implementation of the Programme of Action, including through the regular budget of the United Nations and extrabudgetary sources;

17. *Expresses its appreciation* to those that have made contributions to the Trust Fund for the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, strongly appeals to all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute generously to the Fund, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to continue to establish the appropriate contacts and undertake the appropriate initiatives;

18. *Welcomes* the establishment of the racism project team in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with a view to coordinating all activities of the Third Decade;

19. *Urges* all Governments, the Secretary-General, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, in implementing the Programme of Action, to pay particular attention to the situation of indigenous people;

20. *Requests* States to consider the relevant decisions of the Economic and Social Council on the integrated follow-up to previous world conferences and the need to make optimum use of all available mechanisms in the struggle against racism;

21. *Strongly underlines* the importance of education as a significant means of preventing and eradicating racism and racial discrimination and of creating awareness of the principles of human rights, in particular among young people, and in this regard requests the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its work on the preparation and dissemination of teaching materials and teaching aids to promote teaching, training and educational activities on human rights and against racism and racial discrimination, with particular emphasis on activities at the primary and secondary levels of education;

22. *Considers* that, in order to attain the objectives of the Third Decade, all parts of the Programme of Action should be given equal attention;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to accord high priority to the activities of the Programme of Action and, in this regard, to ensure that the necessary financial resources are provided for the implementation of the activities of the Third Decade during the biennium 2002–2003;

24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to submit each year to the Economic and Social Council a detailed report on all activities of United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies to combat racism and racial discrimination, containing an analysis of information received on such activities;

25. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly proposals which would assist in the full implementation of the Programme of Action;

26. *Reiterates its calls upon* all Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental and regional organizations and interested non-governmental organizations to contribute fully to the effective implementation of the Programme of Action;

## II

## World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

1. *Recalls* its resolutions 52/111 of 12 December 1997 and 53/132 of 9 December 1998, in which it established that the Commission on Human Rights would act as the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and its resolution 54/154, and takes note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/14 of 17 April 2000[277] and Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/21 of 28 July 2000;

2. *Welcomes* the slogan for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance adopted by the Preparatory Committee, namely, "United to combat racism: equality, justice, dignity";[278]

3. *Also welcomes* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerence,[274] and recommends that the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference give due consideration to the recommendations and suggestions contained therein;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate financial resources are made available for the preparatory process for the World Conference, including from the regular budget of the United Nations;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to make every effort to ensure the mobilization of resources for the voluntary fund for the World Conference to cover the participation of the least developed countries in the preparatory process and in the Conference itself, and requests all Governments, international and non-governmental organizations and private individuals to contribute to the fund;

6. *Calls upon* the High Commissioner to help States and regional organizations, upon request, to convene and finalize inclusive national and regional meetings, in close consultation with the regional groups concerned, or to take other

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[277] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[278] A/55/307, annex I, decision PC.1/10.

initiatives, including activities at the expert level, to prepare for the World Conference, and urges the specialized agencies and the regional commissions, in coordination with the High Commissioner, to contribute to the convening of regional preparatory meetings;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and the regional commissions to provide financial and technical assistance for the organization of the regional preparatory meetings planned in the context of the World Conference, and stresses that such assistance should be supplemented by voluntary contributions;

8. *Stresses* the importance of the widest possible participation of non-governmental organizations in the World Conference and the sessions of the Preparatory Committee, as well as in the regional meetings, regional expert seminars and other initiatives, including activities at the expert level, held in preparation for the World Conference;

9. *Decides* to convene the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001;

10. *Welcomes* the holding by the Council of Europe of the regional preparatory meeting at Strasbourg, France, from 11 to 13 October 2000, and the offers made by the Governments of Chile, Senegal and the Islamic Republic of Iran to convene regional preparatory meetings, within the framework of the World Conference, at, respectively, Santiago, from 4 to 7 December 2000, Dakar, from 22 to 24 January 2001, and Tehran, from 19 to 21 February 2001;

11. *Requests* the High Commissioner:

(*a*) To help States, upon request, and regional organizations to convene national and regional meetings or to take other initiatives, including activities at the expert level, to prepare for the World Conference;

(*b*) To undertake appropriate consultations with non-governmental organizations on the possibility that they might hold a forum before and partly during the World Conference and, as far as possible, to provide them with technical assistance for that purpose;

(*c*) To continue fund-raising activities in order to increase the resources of the voluntary fund established specifically to cover all aspects of the preparatory process for the World Conference and the participation of non-governmental organizations, in particular those from developing countries, with special emphasis on those from least developed countries;

12. *Also requests* the High Commissioner, in her capacity as Secretary-General of the World Conference, to continue and intensify the activities already initiated within the framework of the world information campaign with a view to ensuring mobilization and support for the objectives of the World Conference by all sectors of political, economic, social and cultural life, as well as other interested sectors, to inform the Preparatory Committee of developments in this regard and to assist the Preparatory Committee in:

(*a*) Reviewing the political, historical, economic, social, cultural and any other factors leading to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance with a view to reaching a better understanding of and appraising these problems;

(*b*) Reviewing progress made in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[268] and reappraising the obstacles to further progress in the field and ways in which to overcome them;

(*c*) Considering ways and means to better the application of existing standards and the implementation of existing instruments to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(*d*) Increasing the level of awareness about the scourges of racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(*e*) Formulating concrete recommendations on ways in which to increase the effectiveness of the activities and mechanisms of the United Nations through programmes aimed at combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(*f*) Formulating concrete recommendations to further action-oriented national, regional and international measures to combat all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

13. *Requests* the regional preparatory processes to identify trends, priorities and obstacles at the national and regional levels, and to formulate specific recommendations for the action to be carried out in the future to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

14. *Calls upon* the regional preparatory meetings to submit to the Preparatory Committee, at its second session, through the High Commissioner, reports on the results of their deliberations, with concrete and pragmatic recommendations aimed at combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, which will be duly reflected in the texts of the draft final documents of the World Conference, to be prepared by the Committee;

15. *Invites* Governments to promote the participation of national institutions and local non-governmental organizations in the preparations for the World Conference and in the regional meetings and to organize debates in national parliaments on the objectives of the World Conference;

16. *Encourages* all parliaments to participate actively in the preparation of the World Conference, and requests the High Commissioner to explore ways and means of effectively involving parliaments through the relevant international organizations;

17. *Reiterates* that the World Conference should be action-oriented and should adopt a declaration and a programme of action containing concrete and practical recommendations to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

18. *Stresses* the importance of systematically taking a gender perspective into account throughout the preparations for and in the outcome of the World Conference;

19. *Recommends* that the particular situation of children and young people should receive special attention during the preparations for and during the World Conference, especially in its outcome;

20. *Encourages* Governments, to that end and to ensure further the engagement of young people on the broader issues of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, to include youth delegates in their official delegations to the World Conference and its preparatory processes;

21. *Recommends* that special attention be accorded, during the preparations for and during the World Conference, especially in its outcome, to the particular situation of migrants;

22. *Also recommends* that the particular situation of indigenous people receive special attention during the preparations for and during the World Conference, especially in its outcome, and encourages Member States to facilitate the participation of their indigenous people, inter alia, by considering including representatives of indigenous people in their delegations;

23. *Welcomes* the report of the Commission on Human Rights acting as the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on its first session,[279] and requests the Preparatory Committee to develop in a comprehensive manner the provisional agenda, the draft declaration and the draft programme of action of the World Conference, taking into account the themes as adopted and all outstanding issues from its first session as covered in the report, as well as the contributions of all of the regional preparatory processes and other relevant initiatives;

24. *Decides* to establish an inter-sessional working group which will meet for five working days to develop further the draft agenda, the draft declaration and the draft programme of action of the World Conference;

25. *Also decides* to authorize the Preparatory Committee to extend its second session for up to five working days;

26. *Appeals* to Member States to contribute generously to the voluntary fund for the World Conference to cover the preparatory process and the Conference and the participation of non-governmental organizations from developing countries;

27. *Requests* Governments, the specialized agencies, other international organizations, concerned United Nations bodies, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants and other human rights mechanisms to participate actively in the preparatory process with a view to ensuring the success of the World Conference and to coordinate their activities in this regard with the assistance of the High Commissioner;

28. *Calls upon* States and regional organizations to continue the process of convening inclusive national and regional meetings or taking other initiatives, such as public information campaigns, to raise awareness of the World Conference as part of the preparations for the Conference;

## III

### Proclamation of 2001 as the International Year of Mobilization against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

1. *Strongly reaffirms* the proclamation of 2001 as the International Year of Mobilization against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and in this context calls upon Governments, all relevant entities of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to observe the International Year in a suitable manner, including by means of programmes of action;

2. *Emphasizes* that the activities to be implemented within the framework of the International Year should be directed towards the preparation of the World Conference and the realization of its objectives;

## IV

### General

*Decides* to keep the item entitled "Elimination of racism and racial discrimination" on its agenda and to consider it as a matter of high priority at its fifty-sixth session.

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[279] A/55/307.

## RESOLUTION 55/85

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/601, para. 17)[280]

### 55/85. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[281] as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

*Welcoming* the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

*Deeply concerned* at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of sovereign peoples and nations,

*Expressing grave concern* that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

*Recalling* the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth[282] and previous sessions,

*Reaffirming* its previous resolutions on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, including resolution 54/155 of 17 December 1999,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination,[283]

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, in particular the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

## RESOLUTION 55/86

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/601, para. 17),[284] by a recorded vote of 119 to 19, with 35 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti,

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[280] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, Togo, United Arab Emirates and Viet Nam.

[281] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[282] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[283] A/55/176 and Add.1.

[284] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bolivia, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guatemala, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo and Viet Nam.

Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Japan, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Andorra, Australia, Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, New Zealand, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

## 55/86. Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/151 of 17 December 1999, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/3 of 7 April 2000,[285]

*Recalling also* all of its relevant resolutions, in which, inter alia, it condemned any State that permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit and use of mercenaries with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, and recalling further the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the Organization of African Unity,

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, the territorial integrity of States, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations and the self-determination of peoples,

*Reaffirming also* that, by virtue of the principle of self-determination, as developed in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[286] all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development and every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter,

*Recognizing* that mercenary activities continue to increase in many parts of the world and take on new forms, permitting mercenaries to operate in a better organized way, with increased pay, and that their numbers have grown and more persons are prepared to become mercenaries,

*Alarmed and concerned* about the danger that the activities of mercenaries constitute to peace and security in developing countries, in particular in Africa and in small States, and also elsewhere,

*Deeply concerned* about the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the negative effects on the policy and economies of affected countries resulting from mercenary aggression and criminal activities,

*Convinced* that it is necessary for Member States to ratify the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries adopted by the General Assembly on 4 December 1989[287] and to develop and maintain international cooperation among States for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of mercenary activities,

*Convinced also* that, notwithstanding the way in which mercenaries or mercenary-related activities are used or the form that they take to acquire some semblance of legitimacy, they are a threat to peace, security and the self-determination of peoples and an obstacle to the enjoyment of human rights by peoples,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;[288]

2. *Reaffirms* that the recruitment, use, financing and training of mercenaries are causes for grave concern to all States and violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Recognizes* that armed conflict, terrorism, arms trafficking and covert operations by third Powers, inter alia, encourage the demand for mercenaries on the global market;

4. *Urges* all States to take the necessary steps and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take the necessary legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State or threaten the territorial integrity and political unity of sovereign States, or to promote secession or to

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[285] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[286] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[287] Resolution 44/34, annex.

[288] See A/55/334.

fight the national liberation movements struggling against colonial or other forms of alien domination or occupation;

5. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider signing or ratifying the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries;[287]

6. *Welcomes* the cooperation extended by those countries that have received visits from the Special Rapporteur;

7. *Also welcomes* the adoption by some States of national legislation that restricts the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries;

8. *Invites* States to investigate the possibility of mercenary involvement whenever criminal acts of a terrorist nature occur;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the necessary assistance, both professional and financial;

10. *Recommends* that the Commission on Human Rights renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for a period of three years;

11. *Urges* all States to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate;

12. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as a matter of priority to be programmed in its immediate activities, to publicize the adverse effects of the activities of mercenaries on the right to self-determination and, when requested and where necessary, to render advisory services to States that are affected by the activities of mercenaries;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Governments to make proposals towards a clearer legal definition of mercenaries, and in this regard strongly urges the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to convene a workshop on the traditional and new forms of activities of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination before the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights, so that a report on the outcome of the workshop may be submitted to the Commission at its fifty-seventh session;

14. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to report his findings on the use of mercenaries to undermine the right of peoples to self-determination, with specific recommendations, to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

15. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-sixth session the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

## RESOLUTION 55/87

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/601, para. 17),[289] by a recorded vote of 170 to 2, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Israel, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Canada, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, Tonga

### 55/87. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

*The General Assembly,*

*Aware* that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the Charter,

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[289] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Portugal, Qatar, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Palestine.

*Recalling* the International Covenants on Human Rights,[290] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[291] the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[292] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[293]

*Recalling also* the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[294]

*Recalling further* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[295]

*Expressing hope* for an immediate resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process on its agreed basis and for the speedy achievement of a final settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

*Affirming* the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including their right to a State;

2. *Expresses the hope* that the Palestinian people will soon be exercising their right to self-determination, which is not subject to any veto, in the current peace process;

3. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in their quest for self-determination.

## RESOLUTION 55/88

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.1, para. 16)[296]

### 55/88. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming once more* the permanent validity of the principles and norms set forth in the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[297] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[298] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[299] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[300] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[301]

*Bearing in mind* the principles and norms established within the framework of the International Labour Organization and the importance of the work done in connection with migrant workers and members of their families in other specialized agencies and in various organs of the United Nations,

*Reiterating* that, despite the existence of an already established body of principles and norms, there is a need to make further efforts to improve the situation and to guarantee respect for the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and members of their families,

*Aware* of the situation of migrant workers and members of their families and the marked increase in migratory movements that has occurred, especially in certain parts of the world,

*Considering* that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[302] all States are urged to guarantee the protection of the human rights of all migrant workers and members of their families,

*Underlining* the importance of the creation and promotion of conditions to foster greater harmony and tolerance between migrant workers and the rest of the society of the State in which they reside, with the aim of eliminating the growing manifestations of racism and xenophobia perpetrated in segments of many societies by individuals or groups against migrant workers,

*Recalling* its resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

*Bearing in mind* that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, States are invited to consider the possibility of signing and ratifying the Convention at the earliest possible time,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* at the growing manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of

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[290] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[291] Resolution 217 A (III).

[292] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[293] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[294] See resolution 50/6.

[295] See resolution 55/2.

[296] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cape Verde, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Turkey, Uruguay and Yemen.

[297] Resolution 217 A (III).

[298] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[299] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[300] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[301] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[302] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

discrimination and inhuman or degrading treatment directed against migrant workers in different parts of the world;

2. *Welcomes* the signature or ratification of or accession to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families by some Member States;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States, in particular in view of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention, to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, expresses the hope that it will enter into force at an early date, and notes that, pursuant to article 87 of the Convention, only six ratifications or accessions are still needed for it to enter into force;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all the facilities and assistance necessary for the promotion of the Convention through the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

5. *Welcomes* the global campaign for the entry into force of the Convention, and invites the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify further their efforts with a view to disseminating information on and promoting understanding of the importance of the Convention;

6. *Also welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants in relation to the Convention, and encourages her to continue in this endeavour;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[303] and requests him to submit an updated report on the status of the Convention to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

8. *Decides* to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its fifty-sixth session under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments".

## RESOLUTION 55/89

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.1, para. 16)[304]

## 55/89. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[305] article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[306] the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[307] and its resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and all its subsequent relevant resolutions,

*Recalling* that freedom from torture is a right that must be protected under all circumstances, including in times of internal or international disturbance or armed conflict,

*Recalling also* that the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, firmly declared that efforts to eradicate torture should, first and foremost, be concentrated on prevention and called for the early adoption of an optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which is intended to establish a preventive system of regular visits to places of detention,[308]

*Urging* all Governments to promote the speedy and full implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[309] in particular the section relating to freedom from torture, in which it is stated that States should abrogate legislation leading to impunity for those responsible for grave violations of human rights, such as torture, and prosecute such violations, thereby providing a firm basis for the rule of law,[310]

*Recalling* its resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981, in which it noted with deep concern that acts of torture took place in various countries, recognized the need to provide assistance to the victims in a purely humanitarian spirit and established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

*Recalling also* the recommendation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action that high priority should be given to providing the necessary resources to assist victims of torture and effective remedies for their physical, psychological and social rehabilitation, inter alia, through additional contributions to the Fund,[311]

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[303] A/55/205.

[304] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela.

[305] Resolution 217 A (III).

[306] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[307] Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

[308] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 61.

[309] Ibid., chap. III.

[310] Ibid., sect. II, paras. 54–61.

*Noting with satisfaction* the existence of a considerable international network of centres for the rehabilitation of victims of torture, which plays an important role in providing assistance to victims of torture, and the collaboration of the Fund with the centres,

*Commending* the persistent efforts by non-governmental organizations to combat torture and to alleviate the suffering of victims of torture,

*Mindful* of the proclamation by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/149 of 12 December 1997 of 26 June as the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture,

1. *Condemns* all forms of torture, including through intimidation, as described in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

2. *Stresses* that all allegations of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment should be promptly and impartially examined by the competent national authority, that those who encourage, order, tolerate or perpetrate acts of torture must be held responsible and severely punished, including the officials in charge of the place of detention where the prohibited act is found to have taken place, and that national legal systems should ensure that the victims of such acts obtain redress and are awarded fair and adequate compensation and receive appropriate social and medical rehabilitation;

3. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the Principles on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment annexed to the present resolution, and strongly encourages Governments to reflect upon the Principles as a useful tool in efforts to combat torture;

4. *Notes with appreciation* that one hundred and twenty-two States have become parties to the Convention;

5. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention as a matter of priority;

6. *Invites* all States ratifying or acceding to the Convention and those States that are parties to the Convention and have not yet done so to consider joining the States parties that have already made the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 of the Convention and to consider the possibility of withdrawing their reservations to article 20;

7. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to notify the Secretary-General of their acceptance of the amendments to articles 17 and 18 of the Convention as soon as possible;

8. *Urges* States parties to comply strictly with their obligations under the Convention, including their obligation to submit reports in accordance with article 19, in view of the high number of reports not submitted, and invites States parties to incorporate a gender perspective and information concerning children and juveniles when submitting reports to the Committee against Torture;

9. *Emphasizes* the obligation of States parties under article 10 of the Convention to ensure education and training for personnel who may be involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any individual subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment;

10. *Stresses*, in this context, that States must not punish personnel referred to in paragraph 9 above for not obeying orders to commit or conceal acts amounting to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

11. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee, and takes note of the report of the Committee,[312] submitted in accordance with article 24 of the Convention;

12. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in conformity with her mandate established in General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to continue to provide, at the request of Governments, advisory services for the preparation of national reports to the Committee and for the prevention of torture, as well as technical assistance in the development, production and distribution of teaching material for this purpose;

13. *Urges* States parties to take fully into account the conclusions and recommendations made by the Committee after its consideration of their reports;

14. *Urges* the inter-sessional open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights on the development of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment to complete as soon as possible a final text for submission to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, for consideration and adoption;

15. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,[313] describing the overall trends and developments with regard to his mandate, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to include in his

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[311] Ibid., para. 59.

[312] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 44* (A/55/44).

[313] See A/55/290.

recommendations proposals on the prevention and investigation of torture;

16. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to examine questions of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment directed against women, and conditions conducive to such torture, and to make appropriate recommendations for the prevention and redress of gender-specific forms of torture, including rape or any other form of sexual violence, and to exchange views with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and mutual cooperation;

17. *Also invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider questions relating to the torture of children and conditions conducive to such torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and to make appropriate recommendations for the prevention of such torture;

18. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of his task, in particular by supplying all necessary information requested by him, to react appropriately and expeditiously to his urgent appeals and to give serious consideration to his requests to visit their countries, and urges them to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur with respect to the follow-up to his recommendations;

19. *Approves* the methods of work employed by the Special Rapporteur, in particular with regard to urgent appeals, reiterates the need for him to be able to respond effectively to credible and reliable information that comes before him, invites him to continue to seek the views and comments of all concerned, in particular Member States, and expresses its appreciation for the discreet and independent way in which he continues to carry out his work;

20. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider including in his report information on the follow-up by Governments to his recommendations, visits and communications, including progress made and problems encountered;

21. *Stresses* the need for the continued regular exchange of views between the Committee, the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies, as well as for the pursuance of cooperation with relevant United Nations programmes, notably the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and cooperation on issues relating to torture, inter alia, by improving their coordination;

22. *Expresses its gratitude and appreciation* to the Governments, organizations and individuals that have already contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;

23. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the Board of Trustees of the Fund, and appeals to all Governments and organizations to contribute annually to the Fund, preferably by 1 March before the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, if possible with a substantial increase in the level of contributions, so that consideration may be given to the ever-increasing demand for assistance;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to all Governments the appeals of the General Assembly for contributions to the Fund and to continue to include the Fund on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

25. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its appeal for contributions and in its efforts to make better known the existence of the Fund and the financial means currently available to it, as well as in its assessment of the global need for international funding of rehabilitation services for victims of torture and, in this effort, to make use of all existing possibilities, including the preparation, production and dissemination of information materials;

26. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of adequate staff and facilities for the bodies and mechanisms involved in combating torture and assisting victims of torture, commensurate with the strong support expressed by Member States for combating torture and assisting victims of torture;

27. *Invites* donor countries and recipient countries to consider including in their bilateral programmes and projects relating to the training of armed forces, security forces, prison and police personnel, as well as health-care personnel, matters relating to the protection of human rights and the prevention of torture and to keep in mind a gender perspective;

28. *Calls upon* all Governments, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other United Nations bodies and agencies, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to commemorate, on 26 June, the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-seventh session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and a report on the operations of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Victims of Torture;

30. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-sixth session the reports of the Secretary-General, including the report on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, the report of the Committee against Torture and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the

question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

## Annex

### Principles on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

1. The purposes of effective investigation and documentation of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (hereinafter "torture or other ill-treatment") include the following:

(*a*) Clarification of the facts and establishment and acknowledgement of individual and State responsibility for victims and their families;

(*b*) Identification of measures needed to prevent recurrence;

(*c*) Facilitation of prosecution and/or, as appropriate, disciplinary sanctions for those indicated by the investigation as being responsible and demonstration of the need for full reparation and redress from the State, including fair and adequate financial compensation and provision of the means for medical care and rehabilitation.

2. States shall ensure that complaints and reports of torture or ill-treatment are promptly and effectively investigated. Even in the absence of an express complaint, an investigation shall be undertaken if there are other indications that torture or ill-treatment might have occurred. The investigators, who shall be independent of the suspected perpetrators and the agency they serve, shall be competent and impartial. They shall have access to, or be empowered to commission investigations by, impartial medical or other experts. The methods used to carry out such investigations shall meet the highest professional standards and the findings shall be made public.

3. (*a*) The investigative authority shall have the power and obligation to obtain all the information necessary to the inquiry.[314] The persons conducting the investigation shall have at their disposal all the necessary budgetary and technical resources for effective investigation. They shall also have the authority to oblige all those acting in an official capacity allegedly involved in torture or ill-treatment to appear and testify. The same shall apply to any witness. To this end, the investigative authority shall be entitled to issue summonses to witnesses, including any officials allegedly involved, and to demand the production of evidence.

(*b*) Alleged victims of torture or ill-treatment, witnesses, those conducting the investigation and their families shall be protected from violence, threats of violence or any other form of intimidation that may arise pursuant to the investigation. Those potentially implicated in torture or ill-treatment shall be removed from any position of control or power, whether direct or indirect, over complainants, witnesses and their families, as well as those conducting the investigation.

4. Alleged victims of torture or ill-treatment and their legal representatives shall be informed of, and have access to, any hearing, as well as to all information relevant to the investigation, and shall be entitled to present other evidence.

5. (*a*) In cases in which the established investigative procedures are inadequate because of insufficient expertise or suspected bias, or because of the apparent existence of a pattern of abuse or for other substantial reasons, States shall ensure that investigations are undertaken through an independent commission of inquiry or similar procedure. Members of such a commission shall be chosen for their recognized impartiality, competence and independence as individuals. In particular, they shall be independent of any suspected perpetrators and the institutions or agencies they may serve. The commission shall have the authority to obtain all information necessary to the inquiry and shall conduct the inquiry as provided for under these Principles.[314]

(*b*) A written report, made within a reasonable time, shall include the scope of the inquiry, procedures and methods used to evaluate evidence as well as conclusions and recommendations based on findings of fact and on applicable law. Upon completion, the report shall be made public. It shall also describe in detail specific events that were found to have occurred and the evidence upon which such findings were based and list the names of witnesses who testified, with the exception of those whose identities have been withheld for their own protection. The State shall, within a reasonable period of time, reply to the report of the investigation and, as appropriate, indicate steps to be taken in response.

6. (*a*) Medical experts involved in the investigation of torture or ill-treatment shall behave at all times in conformity with the highest ethical standards and, in particular, shall obtain informed consent before any examination is undertaken. The examination must conform to established standards of medical practice. In particular, examinations shall be conducted in private under the control of the medical expert and outside the presence of security agents and other government officials.

(*b*) The medical expert shall promptly prepare an accurate written report, which shall include at least the following:

(i) Circumstances of the interview: name of the subject and name and affiliation of those present at the examination; exact time and date; location, nature and address of the institution (including, where appropriate, the room) where the examination is being conducted (e.g., detention centre, clinic or house); circumstances of the subject at the time of the examination (e.g., nature of any restraints on arrival or during the examination, presence of security forces during the examination, demeanour of those accompanying the prisoner or threatening statements to the examiner); and any other relevant factors;

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[314] Under certain circumstances, professional ethics may require information to be kept confidential. These requirements should be respected.

(ii) History: detailed record of the subject's story as given during the interview, including alleged methods of torture or ill-treatment, times when torture or ill-treatment is alleged to have occurred and all complaints of physical and psychological symptoms;

(iii) Physical and psychological examination: record of all physical and psychological findings on clinical examination, including appropriate diagnostic tests and, where possible, colour photographs of all injuries;

(iv) Opinion: interpretation as to the probable relationship of the physical and psychological findings to possible torture or ill-treatment. A recommendation for any necessary medical and psychological treatment and/or further examination shall be given;

(v) Authorship: the report shall clearly identify those carrying out the examination and shall be signed.

(*c*) The report shall be confidential and communicated to the subject or his or her nominated representative. The views of the subject and his or her representative about the examination process shall be solicited and recorded in the report. It shall also be provided in writing, where appropriate, to the authority responsible for investigating the allegation of torture or ill-treatment. It is the responsibility of the State to ensure that it is delivered securely to these persons. The report shall not be made available to any other person, except with the consent of the subject or on the authorization of a court empowered to enforce such a transfer.

## RESOLUTION 55/90

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.1, para. 16)[315]

### 55/90. Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/138 of 9 December 1998, as well as other relevant resolutions, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/75 of 26 April 2000,[316]

*Recalling also* the relevant paragraphs of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[317]

*Reaffirming* that the full and effective implementation of United Nations human rights instruments is of major importance to the efforts of the Organization, pursuant to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[318] to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Considering* that the effective functioning of the human rights treaty bodies established pursuant to United Nations human rights instruments is indispensable for the full and effective implementation of such instruments,

*Conscious* of the importance of coordination of the human rights promotion and protection activities of the United Nations bodies active in the field of human rights,

*Recalling* that the effectiveness of the human rights treaty bodies in encouraging the realization by States parties of their obligations under United Nations human rights instruments requires constructive dialogue aimed at assisting States parties in identifying solutions to human rights problems, which should be based on the reporting process supplemented by information from all relevant sources, which should be shared with all interested parties,

*Recalling also* the initiatives taken by a number of human rights treaty bodies to elaborate early warning measures and urgent procedures, within their mandates, with a view to preventing the occurrence or recurrence of serious human rights violations,

*Reaffirming* its responsibility for the effective functioning of human rights treaty bodies, and reaffirming also the importance of:

(*a*) Promoting the effective functioning of the periodic reporting by States parties to those instruments,

(*b*) Securing sufficient financial, human and information resources for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to enable the human rights treaty bodies to carry out their mandates effectively, including in regard to their ability to work in the applicable working languages,

(*c*) Promoting greater efficiency and effectiveness through better coordination of the activities of the United

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[315] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[316] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[317] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[318] Resolution 217 A (III).

Nations bodies active in the field of human rights, taking into account the need to avoid unnecessary duplication and overlapping of their mandates and tasks,

(*d*) Addressing questions of both reporting obligations and financial implications when elaborating any further instruments on human rights,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[319]

1. *Welcomes* the submission of the reports of the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies on their eleventh[320] and twelfth[321] meetings, held at Geneva from 31 May to 4 June 1999 and 5 to 8 June 2000, respectively, and takes note of their conclusions and recommendations;

2. *Encourages* each treaty body to continue to give careful consideration to the relevant conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies, and in this context also encourages enhanced cooperation and coordination between the treaty bodies;

3. *Welcomes* the initiative of the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies of inviting representatives of Member States to participate in a dialogue within the framework of their meetings, and encourages them to continue this practice in the future;

4. *Also welcomes* the comments by Governments, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and interested persons on the final report of the independent expert on enhancing the long-term effectiveness of the United Nations human rights treaty system[322] and the report of the Secretary-General thereon;[323]

5. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure financing and adequate staff and information resources for the operations of the human rights treaty bodies, and with this in mind:

(*a*) Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to provide adequate resources in respect of each human rights treaty body, while making the most efficient use of existing resources, in order to give the human rights treaty bodies adequate administrative support and better access to technical expertise and relevant information;

(*b*) Calls upon the Secretary-General to seek, in the next biennium, the resources within the regular budget of the United Nations necessary to give the human rights treaty bodies adequate administrative support and better access to technical expertise and relevant information without diverting resources from the development programmes and activities of the United Nations;

(*c*) Welcomes the plans of action prepared by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to enhance the resources available to all the human rights treaty bodies and thereby strengthen the implementation of the human rights treaties, and encourages all Governments, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and interested persons to consider contributing to the appeal for extrabudgetary resources for the treaty bodies made by the High Commissioner until the regular budget funding meets their needs;

6. *Encourages* ongoing efforts to identify measures for more effective implementation of the United Nations human rights instruments;

7. *Takes note* of the measures taken by each of the human rights treaty bodies to improve their functioning, as reflected in their respective annual reports, and encourages continuing efforts by the treaty bodies and the Secretary-General to assist States parties in meeting their reporting obligations and to reduce the backlog in the consideration of reports by the treaty bodies;

8. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts by the human rights treaty bodies and the Secretary-General aimed at streamlining, rationalizing, rendering more transparent and otherwise improving reporting procedures, and encourages the Secretary-General, the treaty bodies and the persons chairing the treaty bodies at their next meeting to continue to examine ways of reducing the duplication of reporting required under the different instruments, without impairing the quality of reporting, and of generally reducing the reporting burden on States parties, including through an ongoing examination of proposals for reports focused on a limited range of issues, the harmonization of the general guidelines regarding the form and content of reports, the possibility of consolidating overdue reports, the timing of consideration of reports and the methods of work of the treaty bodies;

9. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to complete as soon as possible the detailed analytical study comparing the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[324] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[324] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[325] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[326] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[327] and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman

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[319] A/55/278.

[320] A/54/805, annex.

[321] A/55/206, annex.

[322] E/CN.4/1997/74, annex.

[323] E/CN.4/2000/98 and Add.1.

[324] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[325] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[326] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[327] Resolution 44/25, annex.

or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[328] which is being prepared with a view to identifying duplication of reporting required under those instruments;

10. *Urges* States parties to contribute, individually and through meetings of States parties, to identifying practical proposals and ideas for improving the functioning of the human rights treaty bodies;

11. *Welcomes* the publication of the revised *Manual on Human Rights Reporting*,[329] and encourages the updating of the *Manual* to reflect new developments in the field of human rights, including the adoption of new instruments;

12. *Underlines* the importance of providing technical assistance to a State, upon its request, in the process of ratifying human rights instruments and in the preparation of its initial and subsequent reports;

13. *Welcomes* the work done by the Secretary-General to compile in a single volume all the general guidelines regarding the form and content of reports to be submitted by States parties that have been issued by the human rights treaty bodies, and encourages the Secretary-General also to compile the rules of procedure for the treaty bodies;

14. *Reiterates its concern* about the persistent backlog of reports on the implementation by States parties of certain United Nations instruments on human rights and about delays in the consideration of reports of the human rights treaty bodies;

15. *Also reiterates its concern* about the large number of overdue reports, and again urges States parties to make every effort to meet their reporting obligations;

16. *Urges* all States parties whose reports have been examined by human rights treaty bodies to provide adequate follow-up to the observations and final comments of the treaty bodies on their reports;

17. *Encourages* the human rights treaty bodies to continue to identify specific possibilities for technical assistance, to be provided at the request of the State concerned, in the regular course of their work of reviewing the periodic reports of States parties, and encourages States parties to consider carefully the concluding observations of the treaty bodies in identifying their needs for technical assistance;

18. *Urges* each State party to translate, publish and make widely available in its territory the full text of the concluding observations on its reports to the human rights treaty bodies;

19. *Welcomes* the contribution to the work of the human rights treaty bodies made by the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies, and encourages the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies, the Commission on Human Rights, including its special procedures, and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies to continue to explore specific measures to intensify this cooperation between them and to improve communication and information flow in order to improve further the quality of their work, including by avoiding unnecessary duplication;

20. *Recognizes* the important role played by non-governmental organizations in all parts of the world in the effective implementation of all human rights instruments, and encourages the exchange of information between the human rights treaty bodies and such organizations;

21. *Recalls*, with regard to the election of the members of the human rights treaty bodies, the importance of giving consideration to equitable geographical distribution and gender balance of the membership and to the representation of the principal legal systems and of bearing in mind that the members shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity and shall be of high moral character, acknowledged independence and recognized competence in the field of human rights, and encourages States parties, individually and through meetings of States parties, to consider how to give better effect to these principles;

22. *Takes note* of the discussion of the payment of honorariums to the members of the human rights treaty bodies included in the report of the Secretary-General,[319] and of other work being done by the Secretary-General on this subject, and encourages Member States to consider possible follow-up;

23. *Encourages* the Economic and Social Council, as well as its functional commissions and their subsidiary bodies, other United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies to consider the feasibility of participation by representatives of the human rights treaty bodies in their meetings;

24. *Welcomes* the continuing emphasis by the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies on closely monitoring the enjoyment of the human rights of women within their mandates;

25. *Also welcomes* the contributions of the human rights treaty bodies, within their mandates, to the prevention of violations of human rights, in the context of their consideration of reports submitted under their respective treaties;

26. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit the reports of the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies on their periodic meetings to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on measures taken to implement the present resolution, on obstacles to its

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[328] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[329] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.GV.97.0.16.

implementation and on measures taken or planned to ensure financing and adequate staff and information resources for the effective operation of the human rights treaty bodies;

28. *Decides* to continue to give priority consideration at its fifty-seventh session to the conclusions and recommendations of the periodic meetings of the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies, in the light of the deliberations of the Commission on Human Rights, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

## RESOLUTION 55/91

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[330]

### 55/91. Human rights and cultural diversity

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[331] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[332] as well as other pertinent human rights instruments,

*Noting* that numerous instruments within the United Nations system promote cultural diversity, as well as the conservation and development of culture, in particular the Declaration of the Principles of International Culture Cooperation, proclaimed on 4 November 1966 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its fourteenth session,[333]

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on human rights and cultural diversity,[334]

*Welcoming* the proclamation of 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/22 of 4 November 1998,

*Reaffirming* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Recognizing* that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

*Taking into account* that a culture of peace actively fosters non-violence and respect for human rights and strengthens solidarity among peoples and nations and dialogue between cultures,

*Recognizing* that all cultures and civilizations share a common set of universal values,

*Considering* that tolerance of cultural, ethnic and religious diversities, as well as dialogue among and within civilizations, is essential for peace, understanding and friendship among individuals and people of different cultures and nations of the world, while manifestations of cultural prejudice, intolerance and xenophobia towards different cultures and religions generate hatred and violence among peoples and nations throughout the world,

*Recognizing* in each culture a dignity and value which deserves recognition, respect and preservation, and convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity, and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind,

*Convinced* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would contribute to the efforts of all peoples and nations to enrich their cultures and traditions by engaging in a mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

1. *Affirms* the importance for all peoples and nations to hold, develop and preserve their cultural heritage and traditions in a national and international atmosphere of peace, tolerance and mutual respect;

2. *Recognizes* the right of everyone to take part in cultural life and to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications;

3. *Affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that ensures respect for the cultural diversity of all;

4. *Also affirms* that inter-cultural dialogue essentially enriches the common understanding of human rights and that the benefits to be derived from the encouragement and development of international contacts and cooperation in the cultural fields are important;

5. *Recognizes* that respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all enhances cultural pluralism, contributing to

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[330] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Uganda and United Arab Emirates.

[331] Resolution 217 A (III).

[332] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[333] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Fourteenth Session, Paris, 1966, Resolutions*.

[334] A/55/296 and Add.1.

a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural background, advancing the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights throughout the world and fostering stable friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

6. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance at the national and international levels is important for enhancing respect for cultural rights and cultural diversity;

7. *Also emphasizes* the fact that tolerance and respect for diversity facilitate the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including gender equality and the enjoyment of all human rights by all;

8. *Calls upon* States, international organizations and United Nations agencies, and invites civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to recognize and promote respect for cultural diversity for the purpose of advancing the objectives of peace, development and universally accepted human rights;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the present resolution, to prepare a report on human rights and cultural diversity, taking into account the views of Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, as well as the considerations in the present resolution regarding the recognition and importance of cultural diversity among all peoples and nations in the world, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

10. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question at its fifty-sixth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

## RESOLUTION 55/92

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94),[335] by a recorded vote of 165 to none, with 8 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* India, Israel, Malaysia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Myanmar, Palau, Singapore, United States of America

## 55/92. Protection of migrants

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/166 of 17 December 1999,

*Considering* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[336] proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race, colour or national origin,

*Reaffirming* the provisions concerning migrants adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights,[337] the International Conference on Population and Development,[338] the World Summit for Social Development[339] and the Fourth World Conference on Women,[340]

*Bearing in mind* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants,[341]

*Taking note* of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/48 of 25 April 2000, on the human rights of migrants,[342]

*Recalling* its resolution 40/144 of 13 December 1985, by which it approved the Declaration on the Human Rights of

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[335] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cape Verde, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Togo and Uruguay.

[336] Resolution 217 A (III).

[337] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[338] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[339] See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[340] See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[341] E/CN.4/2000/82.

[342] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

Individuals Who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live,

*Recognizing* the positive contributions that migrants frequently make, including through their eventual integration into their host society,

*Bearing in mind* the situation of vulnerability in which migrants frequently find themselves, owing, inter alia, to their absence from their States of origin and to the difficulties they encounter because of differences of language, custom and culture, as well as the economic and social difficulties and obstacles for the return to their States of origin of migrants who are non-documented or in an irregular situation,

*Bearing in mind also* the need for a focused and consistent approach towards migrants as a specific vulnerable group, in particular migrant women and children,

*Deeply concerned* at the manifestations of violence, racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman and degrading treatment against migrants, especially women and children, in different parts of the world,

*Underlining* the importance of the creation of conditions that foster greater harmony between migrant workers and the rest of the society of the States in which they reside, with the aim of eliminating the growing manifestations of racism and xenophobia perpetrated in segments of many societies by individuals or groups against migrants,

*Encouraged* by the increasing interest of the international community in the effective and full protection of the human rights of all migrants, and underlining the need to make further efforts to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the recommendations on strengthening the promotion, protection and implementation of the human rights of migrants of the working group of intergovernmental experts on the human rights of migrants[343] established by the Commission on Human Rights,

*Noting* the efforts made by States to penalize the international trafficking of migrants and to protect the victims of this illegal activity,

*Taking note* of the decisions of the relevant international juridical bodies on questions relating to migrants, in particular advisory opinion OC-16/99, issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on 1 October 1999, regarding the right to information about consular assistance within the framework of due process guarantees,

1. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[344] to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies;

2. *Requests* all Member States, in conformity with their respective constitutional systems, effectively to promote and protect the human rights of all migrants, in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[336] and the international instruments to which they are party, which may include the International Covenants on Human Rights,[345] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[346] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[347] the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[348] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[349] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[350] and other applicable international human rights instruments;

3. *Strongly condemns* all forms of racial discrimination and xenophobia with regard to access to employment, vocational training, housing, schooling, health services and social services, as well as services intended for use by the public, and welcomes the active role played by governmental and non-governmental organizations in combating racism and assisting individual victims of racist acts, including migrant victims;

4. *Calls upon* all States to review and, where necessary, revise immigration policies with a view to eliminating all discriminatory policies and practices against migrants and to provide specialized training for government policy-making and law enforcement, immigration and other concerned officials, thus underlining the importance of effective action to create conditions that foster greater harmony and tolerance within societies;

5. *Reiterates* the need for all States to protect fully the universally recognized human rights of migrants, especially women and children, regardless of their legal status, and to provide humane treatment, in particular with regard to assistance and protection, including those under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[351] regarding the right to receive consular assistance from the country of origin;

6. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of Governments to safeguard and protect the rights of migrants against illegal or

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[343] E/CN.4/1999/80, paras. 102–124.

[344] See resolution 55/2.

[345] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[346] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[347] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[348] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[349] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[350] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[351] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

violent acts, in particular acts of racial discrimination and crimes perpetrated with racist or xenophobic motivation by individuals or groups, and urges them to reinforce measures in this regard;

7. *Urges* all States to adopt effective measures to put an end to the arbitrary arrest and detention of migrants, including by individuals or groups;

8. *Requests* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants in the performance of her mandated tasks and duties and to furnish all information requested, including by reacting promptly to her urgent appeals;

9. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to enact domestic criminal legislation to combat international trafficking of migrants, which should take into account, in particular, trafficking that endangers the lives of migrants or includes different forms of servitude or exploitation, such as any form of debt bondage, sexual or labour exploitation, and to strengthen international cooperation to combat such trafficking;

10. *Welcomes* the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur that close links be established between her work and that of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, within the framework of the objectives of the Conference, and encourages her to assist in the identification of the main issues that the Conference should address;

11. *Calls upon* all States to protect the human rights of migrant children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children, ensuring that the best interests of the children are the paramount consideration, and encourages the relevant United Nations bodies, within the framework of their respective mandates, to pay special attention to the conditions of migrant children in all States and, where necessary, to put forward recommendations for strengthening their protection;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

## RESOLUTION 55/93

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[352]

### 55/93. Proclamation of 18 December as International Migrants Day

*The General Assembly,*

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council decision 2000/288 of 28 July 2000,

*Considering* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[353] proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race, colour or national origin,

*Taking into account* the large and increasing number of migrants in the world,

*Encouraged* by the increasing interest of the international community in the effective and full protection of the human rights of all migrants, and underlining the need to make further efforts to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 18 December International Migrants Day;

2. *Invites* Member States, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to observe International Migrants Day, through, inter alia, the dissemination of information on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, the sharing of experience and the design of actions to ensure their protection;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments and appropriate intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

## RESOLUTION 55/94

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[354]

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[352] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Senegal, Togo, Yemen, South Africa, Turkey, Uruguay and Venezuela.

[353] Resolution 217 A (III).

[354] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu and Venezuela.

## 55/94. United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[355]

*Reaffirming* article 26 of the Declaration, which states that "education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms",

*Recalling* the provisions of other international human rights instruments, including article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[356] article 10 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[357] article 7 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[358] article 29 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[359] article 10 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[360] and paragraphs 78 to 82 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[361] which reflect the aims of article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

*Recalling* the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights concerning the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, public information activities in the field of human rights, including the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the project of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled "Towards a culture of peace", and the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum, which, inter alia, reconfirmed the mandated role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of coordinating Education For All partners and maintaining their collective momentum within the process of securing quality basic education,[362]

*Believing* that the World Public Information Campaign is a valuable complement to the activities of the United Nations aimed at the further promotion and protection of human rights, and recalling the importance attached by the World Conference on Human Rights to human rights education and information,

*Believing also* that human rights education constitutes an important vehicle for the elimination of gender-based discrimination and for ensuring equal opportunities through the promotion and protection of the human rights of women,

*Convinced* that every woman, man and child, in order to realize their full human potential, must be made aware of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Convinced also* that human rights education should involve more than the provision of information and should constitute a comprehensive, lifelong process by which people at all levels of development and in all societies learn respect for the dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring that respect in all societies,

*Recognizing* that human rights education and information are essential to the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms and that carefully designed training, dissemination and information programmes can have a catalytic effect on national, regional and international initiatives to promote and protect human rights and prevent human rights violations,

*Convinced* that human rights education and information contribute to a holistic concept of development consistent with the dignity of women and men of all ages, which takes into account particularly vulnerable segments of society such as children, young persons, older persons, indigenous people, minorities, the rural and urban poor, migrant workers, refugees, persons with the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and disabled persons,

*Taking into account* the efforts to promote human rights education made by educators and non-governmental organizations in all parts of the world, as well as by intergovernmental organizations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme,

*Recognizing* the invaluable and creative role that non-governmental and community-based organizations can play in disseminating public information and engaging in human rights education, especially at the grass-roots level and in remote and rural communities,

*Aware* of the potential supportive role of the private sector in implementing at all levels of society the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,[363] and the World Public Information Campaign, through creative initiatives and financial support for governmental and non-governmental activities,

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[355] Resolution 217 A (III).

[356] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[357] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[358] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[359] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[360] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[361] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[362] See *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000*, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Paris, 2000.

*Convinced* that the effectiveness of existing human rights education and public information activities would be enhanced by better coordination and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels,

*Recalling* that it is within the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to coordinate relevant United Nations education and public information programmes in the field of human rights,

*Noting with appreciation* the increased efforts undertaken so far by the Office of the High Commissioner to disseminate human rights information through its web site[364] and its publications and external relations programmes,

*Welcoming* the initiative of the Office of the High Commissioner to develop further the project entitled "Assisting Communities Together", launched in 1998, supported by voluntary funds and designed to provide small grants to grass-roots and local organizations carrying out practical human rights activities,

*Recalling* that, according to the Plan of Action, in 2000 a mid-term global evaluation of progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade shall be undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner, in cooperation with all other principal actors in the Decade,

*Acknowledging with appreciation* the mid-term global evaluation undertaken from April to August 2000 by the Office of the High Commissioner, which included the launching of a worldwide survey, the organization of an online forum, the convening of an expert meeting and the preparation of the High Commissioner's mid-term evaluation report,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the mid-term global evaluation of the progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,[365] which contains an analysis of available information on the progress made in the first five years of the Decade at the national, regional and international levels and recommendations for action during the remaining years of the Decade;

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to implement the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,[363] and to develop public information activities in the field of human rights, as indicated in the report of the High Commissioner on the mid-term global evaluation;

3. *Urges* all Governments to contribute further to the implementation of the Plan of Action, in particular by encouraging the establishment, in accordance with national conditions, of broadly representative national committees for human rights education responsible for the development of comprehensive, effective and sustainable national plans of action for human rights education and information, taking into consideration the guidelines for national plans of action for human rights education developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights[366] within the framework of the Decade;

4. *Urges* Governments to encourage, support and involve national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in the implementation of their national plans of action;

5. *Encourages* Governments to consider, within the national plans of action mentioned in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, the establishment of public access human rights resource and training centres capable of engaging in research, the gender-sensitive training of trainers, the preparation, collection, translation and dissemination of human rights education and training materials, the organization of courses, conferences, workshops and public information campaigns and assistance in the implementation of internationally sponsored technical cooperation projects for human rights education and public information;

6. *Encourages* States, where such national public access human rights resource and training centres exist, to strengthen their capacity to support human rights education and public information programmes at the international, regional, national and local levels;

7. *Calls upon* Governments, in accordance with national conditions, to accord priority to the dissemination, in the relevant national and local languages, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[355] the International Covenants on Human Rights[356] and other human rights instruments, human rights materials and training manuals, as well as reports of States parties submitted under international human rights treaties, and to provide information and education in those languages on the practical ways in which national and international institutions and procedures may be utilized to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments;

8. *Encourages* Governments to support further, through voluntary contributions, the education and public

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[363] A/51/506/Add.1, appendix.

[364] www.unhchr.ch.

[365] See A/55/360.

[366] A/52/469/Add.1 and Corr.1.

information efforts undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner within the framework of the Plan of Action;

9. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue to coordinate and harmonize human rights education and information strategies within the United Nations system, including the implementation of the Plan of Action, in cooperation, inter alia, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and to ensure maximum effectiveness and efficiency in the use, processing, management and distribution of human rights information and educational materials, including through electronic means;

10. *Encourages* Governments to contribute to the further development of the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner,[364] in particular with respect to the dissemination of human rights education materials and tools, and to continue and expand the publications and external relations programmes of the Office;

11. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to support national capacities for human rights education and information through its technical cooperation programme in the field of human rights, including the organization of training courses and the development of targeted training materials for professional audiences, as well as the dissemination of human rights information materials as a component of technical cooperation projects, and to continue to monitor developments in human rights education;

12. *Urges* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to continue to utilize United Nations information centres for the timely dissemination, within their designated areas of activity, of basic information, reference and audio-visual materials on human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the reports of States parties submitted under international human rights instruments and, to this end, to ensure that the information centres are supplied with adequate quantities of those materials;

13. *Stresses* the need for close collaboration between the Office of the High Commissioner and the Department of Public Information in the implementation of the Plan of Action and the World Public Information Campaign, and the need to harmonize their activities with those of other international organizations, such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization with regard to its project entitled "Towards a culture of peace" and the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations with regard to the dissemination of information on international humanitarian law;

14. *Invites* the specialized agencies and relevant United Nations programmes and funds to continue to contribute, within their respective spheres of competence, to the implementation of the Plan of Action and the World Public Information Campaign and to cooperate and coordinate with each other and with the Office of the High Commissioner in that regard;

15. *Encourages* the relevant organs, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, all human rights bodies of the United Nations system, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to provide training in human rights for all United Nations personnel and officials;

16. *Encourages* the human rights treaty bodies, when examining reports of States parties, to place emphasis on the obligations of States parties in the area of human rights education and information and to reflect this emphasis in their concluding observations;

17. *Calls upon* international, regional and national non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations, in particular those concerned with women, labour, development, food, housing, education, health care and the environment, as well as all other social justice groups, human rights advocates, educators, religious organizations and the media, to undertake specific activities of formal, non-formal and informal education, including cultural events, alone and in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in implementing the Plan of Action;

18. *Encourages* Governments, regional organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to explore the potential support and contribution to human rights education of all relevant partners, including the private sector, development, trade and financial institutions and the media, and to seek their cooperation in the development of human rights education strategies;

19. *Encourages* regional organizations to develop strategies for the wider distribution of materials on human rights education through regional networks and to develop region-specific programmes to maximize the participation of national entities, whether governmental or non-governmental, in programmes on human rights education;

20. *Encourages* intergovernmental organizations to assist, upon request, collaboration between governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations at the national level;

21. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue implementation of and to expand the "Assisting Communities Together" project and to consider other appropriate ways and means to support human rights education activities, including those undertaken by non-governmental organizations;

22. *Requests* the High Commissioner to bring the recommendations contained in the mid-term global evaluation report and the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community and of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights education and public information, and to report to the General

Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

## RESOLUTION 55/95

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[367]

### 55/95. Situation of human rights in Cambodia

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[368] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[369]

*Recalling* the Agreement on a Comprehensive Political Settlement of the Cambodia Conflict, signed in Paris on 23 October 1991,[370] including part III thereof, relating to human rights,

*Recalling also* its resolution 54/171 of 17 December 1999, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/79 of 26 April 2000,[371] and recalling further previous relevant resolutions,

*Recognizing* that the tragic history of Cambodia requires special measures to ensure the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and the non-return to the policies and practices of the past, as stipulated in the Agreement signed in Paris on 23 October 1991,

*Desiring* that the international community continue to respond positively to assist efforts to investigate the tragic history of Cambodia, including responsibility for past international crimes, such as acts of genocide and crimes against humanity during the regime of Democratic Kampuchea from 1975 to 1979,

*Bearing in mind* the request made in June 1997 by the Cambodian authorities for assistance in responding to past serious violations of Cambodian and international law, the letter dated 15 March 1999 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council[372] and the report of the Group of Experts appointed by the Secretary-General annexed thereto, and the discussions held between the Government of Cambodia and the United Nations Secretariat on standards and procedures for bringing to justice the Khmer Rouge leaders most responsible for the most serious violations of human rights in the years 1975–1979,

*Recognizing* the legitimate concern of the Government and people of Cambodia in the pursuit of internationally accepted principles of justice and of national reconciliation,

*Recognizing also* that accountability of individual perpetrators of grave human rights violations is one of the central elements of any effective remedy for victims of human rights violations and a key factor in ensuring a fair and equitable justice system and, ultimately, reconciliation and stability within a State,

*Welcoming* the continuing role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and protection of human rights in Cambodia,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through his Special Representative for human rights in Cambodia, in collaboration with the office in Cambodia of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to assist the Government of Cambodia in ensuring the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and to ensure adequate resources for the continued functioning of the operational presence in Cambodia of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and to enable the Special Representative to continue to fulfil his tasks expeditiously;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the situation of human rights in Cambodia;[373]

3. *Requests* the Government of Cambodia and the office in Cambodia of the High Commissioner to exchange the memorandum of understanding for the extension of the mandate of the office after March 2000, and encourages the Government of Cambodia to continue to cooperate with the office;

4. *Commends and expresses its deep appreciation* for the work of the former Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights in Cambodia, Thomas Hammarberg, in promoting and protecting human rights in Cambodia;

5. *Welcomes* the appointment by the Secretary-General of Peter Leuprecht as his new Special Representative for human rights in Cambodia, and requests the Special Representative, in

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[367] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[368] Resolution 217 A (III).

[369] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[370] A/46/608-S/23177.

[371] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[372] A/53/850-S/1999/231.

[373] A/55/291.

collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner, to continue the work of his predecessors by evaluating the extent to which the recommendations in his forthcoming reports, and those contained in the reports of his predecessors, are followed up and implemented, while maintaining contact with the Government and people of Cambodia;

6. *Notes with concern* the continued problems related to the rule of law and the functioning of the judiciary, including interference by the executive with the independence of the judiciary, inter alia, through rearrests, and welcomes statements by the Government committing itself to judicial reform, the work currently being done to prepare the laws and codes that are essential components of the basic legal framework, meetings of the Supreme Council of Magistracy and the establishment of the Council of Judicial Reform;

7. *Urges* the Government of Cambodia to continue to take the necessary measures to develop an independent, impartial and effective judicial system, including through the early adoption of the draft statute on magistrates, a penal code and a code on criminal procedures, and the reform of the administration of justice, and appeals to the international community to assist the Government to this end;

8. *Welcomes* the draft governance action plan prepared by the Government of Cambodia, encourages the early adoption and implementation thereof, and appeals to the international community to assist the Government in its efforts to implement the plan;

9. *Commends* the initial efforts of the Government of Cambodia with regard to the review and the stated commitment to the downsizing of the police and the military, urges the Government to take further measures to carry out effective reform aimed towards professional and impartial police and military forces, and invites the international community to continue to assist the Government to this end;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of human rights education and training in Cambodia, commends the efforts of the Government of Cambodia, the Office of the High Commissioner and civil society in this field, encourages further strengthening and wider dissemination of these programmes, and invites the international community to continue to assist these efforts;

11. *Commends* the vital and valuable role played by non-governmental organizations in Cambodia, inter alia, in the development of civil society, and encourages the Government of Cambodia to continue to work closely and cooperatively with non-governmental organizations in efforts to strengthen and uphold human rights in Cambodia;

12. *Notes with interest* the activities undertaken by the governmental Cambodian Human Rights Committee, the National Assembly Commission on Human Rights and Reception of Complaints and the Senate Commission on Human Rights and Reception of Complaints, and welcomes preliminary efforts to establish an independent national human rights commission, which should be based on the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, known as the Paris principles,[374] and requests the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to provide advice and technical assistance in these efforts;

13. *Expresses grave concern* about continued violations of human rights, including torture, extrajudicial killings, excessive pre-trial detention, violation of labour rights, illegal confiscation of land and forced relocation, as well as the apparent lack of protection from mob killings, as detailed in the report of the Special Representative to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session,[375] and notes some progress made by the Government of Cambodia in addressing these issues;

14. *Expresses serious concern* about the continued prevalence of impunity in Cambodia, commends the initial commitment and efforts of the Government of Cambodia to tackle this question, and calls upon the Government to take further measures, as a matter of critical priority, to investigate urgently and prosecute, in accordance with due process of law and international human rights standards, all those who have perpetrated violations of human rights;

15. *Welcomes* the investigations into some cases of politically motivated violence, while remaining concerned at the continued reports of politically motivated violence and intimidation, and urges the Government of Cambodia to undertake further investigations in line with its stated commitments and to take appropriate measures to prevent politically motivated violence and intimidation in the future;

16. *Also welcomes* the commitment and efforts made by the Government of Cambodia with respect to tackling the question of human rights violations, and notes with interest the investigations undertaken by the governmental Cambodian Human Rights Committee and by the national police in order to bring to justice those responsible for such violations and to ensure security of persons and rights of association, assembly and expression;

17. *Reaffirms* that the most serious human rights violations in Cambodia in recent history have been committed by the Khmer Rouge, welcomes the final collapse of the Khmer Rouge, which has paved the way for the restoration of peace, stability and national reconciliation in Cambodia and the investigation and prosecution of the leaders of the Khmer Rouge, and notes with interest the progress made by the Government of Cambodia in bringing to justice the Khmer Rouge leaders most responsible for the most serious violations of human rights;

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[374] See resolution 48/134, annex.

[375] E/CN.4/2000/109.

18. *Welcomes* the successful conclusion of the talks between the Government of Cambodia and the United Nations Secretariat on the question of the trial of the Khmer Rouge leaders who are most responsible for the most serious violations of human rights, appeals strongly to the Government to ensure, including by facilitating the expedited completion of the necessary legislative process as soon as possible, that those Khmer Rouge leaders are brought to account in accordance with international standards of justice, fairness and due process of law, encourages the Government to continue to cooperate with the United Nations on this issue, and welcomes the efforts of the Secretariat and the international community in assisting the Government to this end;

19. *Takes note with interest* of the signing by Cambodia of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[376]

20. *Reaffirms* the importance of the upcoming communal elections being conducted in a free and fair manner, takes note with interest of the draft legislation for preparing for communal elections, and urges the Government of Cambodia to continue to prepare for them accordingly;

21. *Welcomes* the initial progress made under the five-year action plan by the Government of Cambodia, in particular by the Ministry of Women's and Veterans' Affairs, to improve the status of women, and urges the Government to continue to take appropriate measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women, to combat violence against women in all its forms, including grave violations of the rights of women perpetrated by elements of law enforcement and armed forces personnel, and to take all steps to meet its obligations as a party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[377] including by seeking technical assistance;

22. *Calls upon* the Government of Cambodia to continue to take further measures to ensure adequate health conditions, with emphasis on ensuring such conditions for women and children and minority groups and on the problem of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, and encourages the international community to continue to support the Government to this end;

23. *Commends* the continued efforts of the Government of Cambodia, together with non-governmental organizations, local authorities and United Nations bodies, to improve the quality of and access to education, calls for further measures to be taken in order to ensure the right of Cambodian children to education, especially at the primary level, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[378] and requests the international community to provide assistance for the achievement of this goal;

24. *Welcomes* the signing of the United Nations inter-agency memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of the Interior on Law Enforcement against Sexual Exploitation of Children, and encourages the Government of Cambodia to ensure the necessary law enforcement and other measures to tackle the problem of child prostitution and trafficking in Cambodia;

25. *Notes with serious concern* the problem of child labour in its worst forms, calls upon the Government of Cambodia to ensure adequate health and safety conditions for children and to outlaw, in particular, the worst forms of child labour, invites the International Labour Organization to continue to extend the necessary assistance in this regard, and encourages the Government of Cambodia to consider ratifying the 1999 International Labour Organization Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (Convention No. 182);

26. *Also notes with serious concern* the prison conditions in Cambodia, notes with interest some improvements in the prison system, commends the continued international assistance to improve the material conditions of detention, and calls upon the Government of Cambodia to take the further measures necessary to improve prison conditions, especially with regard to providing the minimum standard of food and health care and meeting the special needs of women and children, including by strengthening the coordinating role of the Prison Health Department with the Ministry of Health, provincial authorities and non-governmental organizations working in this field;

27. *Urges* an end to racial violence against and vilification of ethnic minorities, including the ethnic Vietnamese, and also urges the Government of Cambodia to take all steps to prevent such violence, as well as to meet its obligations as a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[379] inter alia, by seeking technical assistance;

28. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the Government of Cambodia to combat illicit logging, which has seriously threatened the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights by many Cambodians, including indigenous people, expects these efforts by the Government to continue, and welcomes the progress made on the drafting of the new law on land;

29. *Also welcomes* the consideration by the Committee on the Rights of the Child of the initial report of Cambodia submitted under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, asks the Government of Cambodia to follow up the recommendations made by the international human rights treaty bodies regarding the reports submitted by it, calls upon the

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[376] A/CONF.183/9.

[377] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[378] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[379] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

Government to meet its reporting obligations under all other international human rights instruments, and requests the office in Cambodia of the High Commissioner to continue to provide assistance in this regard;

30. *Expresses grave concern* at the devastating consequences and destabilizing effects of the use of anti-personnel landmines on Cambodian society, encourages the Government of Cambodia to continue its support and efforts for the removal of those mines and for victim assistance and mine-awareness programmes, and commends donor countries and other actors of the international community for their contributions and assistance to mine action;

31. *Expresses concern* about the large number of small arms in society and commends the efforts of the Government of Cambodia to control the spread of weapons;

32. *Notes with appreciation* the use by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia to finance the programme of activities of the office in Cambodia of the High Commissioner, as defined in resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, and invites Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, foundations and individuals to consider contributing to the Trust Fund;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the role and achievements of the Office of the High Commissioner in assisting the Government and people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights and on the recommendations made by the Special Representative on matters within his mandate;

34. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in Cambodia at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

## RESOLUTION 55/96

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94),[380] by a recorded vote of 157 to none, with 16 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* Bahrain, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, China, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Honduras, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Swaziland, Viet Nam

### 55/96. Promoting and consolidating democracy

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming also that everyone is entitled to all rights and freedoms without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, as set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[381]

*Bearing in mind* Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1999/57 of 27 April 1999[382] and 2000/47 of 25 April 2000,[383]

*Recognizing* the indissoluble link between human rights as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the international human rights treaties and the foundation of any democratic society, and reaffirming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights,[384] which states that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing,

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[380] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[381] Resolution 217 A (III).

[382] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[383] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[384] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

*Recalling* that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which they can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

*Recalling also* that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the World Conference on Human Rights recommended that priority should be given to national and international action to promote democracy, development and human rights and that the international community should support the strengthening and promotion of democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the entire world,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 53/243 A and B of 13 September 1999, containing, respectively, the Declaration and the Programme of Action for a Culture of Peace,

*Recognizing and respecting* the rich and diverse nature of the community of the world's democracies, which arise out of all of the world's social, cultural and religious beliefs and traditions,

*Recognizing* that, while all democracies share common features, there is no one universal model of democracy,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to the process of democratization of States, and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

*Reaffirming* that good governance, as referred to in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[385] is among the indispensable factors for building and strengthening peaceful, prosperous and democratic societies,

*Aware* of the crucial importance of the active involvement and contribution of civil society in processes of governance that affect the lives of people,

*Recalling* commitments undertaken by Member States for the promotion of democracy and the rule of law, within the framework of the United Nations and other international organizations,

*Welcoming* measures, such as decision AHG/Dec.141 (XXXV) adopted in 1999 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity,[386] resolution AG/RES.1080 (XXI-091) adopted in 1991 by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States and the Moscow Document on the Human Dimension adopted in 1991 by the Conference on the Human Dimension of the Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which commit Member States to taking certain steps in the event of an interruption of democratic government, as well as the Commonwealth Declaration adopted at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, held at Harare in 1991,[387] which commits members to fundamental democratic principles,

*Commending* the wish of an increasing number of countries all over the world to devote their energy, means and political will to the building of democratic societies in which individuals have the opportunity to shape their own destiny,

*Noting* the initiatives taken by the countries that participated in the first, second and third International Conference of New or Restored Democracies, held, respectively, at Manila in June 1988, Managua in July 1994 and Bucharest in September 1997,

*Noting also* the ministerial conference entitled "Towards a Community of Democracies", hosted by the Government of Poland at Warsaw on 26 and 27 June 2000,

*Noting further* the Forum on Emerging Democracies, held at Sana'a from 27 to 30 June 1999,

*Noting* that the fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies is scheduled to be held at Cotonou, Benin, from 4 to 6 December 2000, and also noting the initiative of the Government of Mali to host, at Bamako from 1 to 3 November 2000, following the Moncton Declaration adopted in September 1999 at Moncton, Canada, by the Eighth Summit of la Francophonie,[388] an international symposium at the ministerial level on the status of the practices of democracy, rights and freedoms in the French-speaking community,

1. *Calls upon* States to promote and consolidate democracy, inter alia, by:

(*a*) Promoting pluralism, the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, maximizing the participation of individuals in decision-making and the development of effective public institutions, including an independent judiciary, accountable legislature and public service and an electoral system that ensures periodic, free and fair elections;

(*b*) Promoting, protecting and respecting all human rights, including the right to development, and fundamental freedoms, in particular:

(i) Freedom of thought, conscience, religion, belief, peaceful assembly and association, as well as freedom of expression, freedom of opinion, and free, independent and pluralistic media;

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[385] See resolution 55/2.

[386] See A/54/424, annex II.

[387] A/46/708, annex.

[388] A/54/453, annex I.

(ii) The rights of persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities, including the right freely to express, preserve and develop their identity without any discrimination and in full equality before the law;

(iii) The rights of indigenous people;

(iv) The rights of children, the elderly and persons with physical or mental disabilities;

(v) Actively promoting gender equality with the aim of achieving full equality between men and women;

(vi) Taking appropriate measures to eradicate all forms of racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(vii) Considering becoming parties to international human rights instruments;

(viii) Fulfilling their obligations under the international human rights instruments to which they are parties;

(*c*) Strengthening the rule of law by:

(i) Ensuring equality before the law and equal protection under the law;

(ii) Ensuring the right to liberty and security of person, the right to equal access to justice, and the right to be brought promptly before a judge or other officer authorized by law to exercise judicial power in the case of detention with a view to avoiding arbitrary arrest;

(iii) Guaranteeing the right to a fair trial;

(iv) Ensuring due process of law and the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law;

(v) Promoting the independence and integrity of the judiciary and, by means of appropriate education, selection, support and allocation of resources, strengthening its capacity to render justice with fairness and efficiency, free from improper or corrupt outside influence;

(vi) Guaranteeing that all persons deprived of their liberty are treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person;

(vii) Ensuring appropriate civil and administrative remedies and criminal sanctions for violations of human rights, as well as effective protection for human rights defenders;

(viii) Including human rights education in the training for civil servants and law enforcement and military personnel;

(ix) Ensuring that the military remains accountable to the democratically elected civilian government;

(*d*) Developing, nurturing and maintaining an electoral system that provides for the free and fair expression of the will of the people through genuine and periodic elections, in particular by:

(i) Guaranteeing that everyone can exercise his or her right to take part in the government of his or her country, directly or through freely chosen representatives;

(ii) Guaranteeing the right to vote freely and to be elected in a free and fair process at regular intervals, by universal and equal suffrage, conducted by secret ballot and with full respect for the right to freedom of association;

(iii) Taking measures, as appropriate, to address the representation of under-represented segments of society;

(iv) Ensuring, through legislation, institutions and mechanisms, the freedom to form democratic political parties that can participate in elections, as well as the transparency and fairness of the electoral process, including through appropriate access under the law to funds and free, independent and pluralistic media;

(*e*) Creating and improving the legal framework and necessary mechanisms for enabling the wide participation of all members of civil society in the promotion and consolidation of democracy, by:

(i) Respecting the diversity of society by promoting associations, dialogue structures, mass media and their interaction as a means of strengthening and developing democracy;

(ii) Fostering, through education and other means, awareness and respect for democratic values;

(iii) Respecting the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and the exercise of the right freely to form, join and participate in non-governmental organizations or associations, including trade unions;

(iv) Guaranteeing mechanisms for consultations with and the contribution of civil society in processes of governance and encouraging cooperation between local authorities and non-governmental organizations;

(v) Providing or improving the legal and administrative framework for non-governmental, community-based and other civil society organizations;

(vi) Promoting civic education and education on human rights, inter alia, in cooperation with organizations of civil society;

(*f*) Strengthening democracy through good governance as referred to in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[385] by, inter alia:

(i) Improving the transparency of public institutions and policy-making procedures and enhancing the accountability of public officials;

(ii) Taking legal, administrative and political measures against corruption, including by disclosing and investigating and punishing all those involved in acts of corruption and by criminalizing payment of commissions and bribes to public officials;

(iii) Bringing government closer to the people by appropriate levels of devolution;

(iv) Promoting the widest possible public access to information about the activities of national and local authorities, as well as ensuring access by all to administrative remedies, without discrimination;

(v) Fostering high levels of competence, ethics and professionalism within the civil service and its cooperation with the public, inter alia, by providing appropriate training for members of the civil service;

(*g*) Strengthening democracy by promoting sustainable development, in particular by:

(i) Taking effective measures aimed at the progressive realization of economic, social and cultural rights, such as the right to education and the right to a standard of living adequate for health and well-being, including food, clothing, housing, medical care and necessary social services, individually and through international cooperation;

(ii) Taking effective measures aimed at overcoming social inequalities and creating an environment that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty;

(iii) Promoting economic freedom and social development and pursuing active policies to provide opportunities for productive employment and sustainable livelihoods;

(iv) Ensuring equal access to economic opportunities and equal pay and other rewards for work of equal value;

(v) Creating a legal and regulatory framework with a view to promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

(*h*) Enhancing social cohesion and solidarity by:

(i) Developing and strengthening, at the local and national levels, institutional and educational capabilities to resolve conflicts and disputes peacefully, including through mediation, and to prevent and eliminate the use of violence in addressing societal tensions and disagreements;

(ii) Improving social protection systems and ensuring access for all to basic social services;

(iii) Encouraging social dialogue and tripartite cooperation with respect to labour relations among government, trade unions and employer organizations, as reflected in the core Conventions of the International Labour Organization;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to disseminate the present resolution as widely as possible.

## RESOLUTION 55/97

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[389]

### 55/97. Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* that all States have pledged themselves, under the Charter of the United Nations, to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

*Reaffirming* that discrimination against human beings on the grounds of religion or belief constitutes an affront to human dignity and a disavowal of the principles of the Charter,

*Recalling* article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[390] and article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[391]

*Reaffirming* its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[392] in particular paragraph 4 thereof,

*Emphasizing* that the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief is far-reaching and profound and that it encompasses freedom of thought on all matters, personal conviction and the commitment to religion or belief, whether manifested individually or in community with others, and in public or private,

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[389] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela.

[390] Resolution 217 A (III).

[391] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[392] See resolution 55/2.

*Reaffirming* the call of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, for all Governments to take all appropriate measures in compliance with their international obligations and with due regard to their respective legal systems to counter intolerance and related violence based on religion or belief, including practices of discrimination against women and the desecration of religious sites, recognizing that every individual has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, expression and religion,[393]

*Calling upon* all Governments to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on religious intolerance to enable him to carry out his mandate fully,

*Alarmed* that serious instances of intolerance and discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, including acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by religious intolerance, occur in many parts of the world and threaten the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Deeply concerned* that, as reported by the Special Rapporteur, the rights violated on religious grounds include the right to life, the right to physical integrity and to liberty and security of person, the right to freedom of expression, the right not to be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and the right not to be arbitrarily arrested or detained,[394]

*Believing* that further efforts are therefore required to promote and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief and to eliminate all forms of hatred, intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief,

1. *Reaffirms* that freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief is a human right derived from the inherent dignity of the human person and guaranteed to all without discrimination;

2. *Urges* States to ensure that their constitutional and legal systems provide effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief, including the provision of effective remedies in cases in which the right to freedom of religion or belief is violated;

3. *Also urges* States to ensure, in particular, that no one within their jurisdiction is, because of his or her religion or belief, deprived of the right to life or the right to liberty and security of person, or subjected to torture or arbitrary arrest or detention;

4. *Further urges* States, in conformity with international standards of human rights, to take all necessary action to prevent such instances, to take all appropriate measures to combat hatred, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by religious intolerance and to encourage, through the educational system and by other means, understanding, tolerance and respect in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief;

5. *Emphasizes* that, as underlined by the Human Rights Committee, restrictions on the freedom to manifest religion or belief are permitted only if those limitations that are prescribed by law are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion;

6. *Urges* States to ensure that, in the course of their official duties, members of law enforcement bodies, civil servants, educators and other public officials respect different religions and beliefs and do not discriminate against persons professing other religions or beliefs;

7. *Calls upon* all States to recognize, as provided for in the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[395] the right of all persons to worship or assemble in connection with a religion or belief and to establish and maintain places for those purposes;

8. *Expresses its grave concern* at any attack upon religious places, sites and shrines, and calls upon all States, in accordance with their national legislation and in conformity with international human rights standards, to exert their utmost efforts to ensure that such places, sites and shrines are fully respected and protected;

9. *Recognizes* that legislation alone is not enough to prevent violations of human rights, including the right to freedom of religion or belief, and that the exercise of tolerance and non-discrimination by persons and groups is necessary for the full realization of the aims of the Declaration;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on religious intolerance,[396] and encourages continued efforts on the part of the Special Rapporteur, who was appointed to examine incidents and governmental actions in all parts of the world that are incompatible with the provisions of the Declaration and to recommend remedial measures, as appropriate;

11. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Human Rights in resolution 2000/33 of 20 April 2000[397] to change the title of the Special Rapporteur from Special

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[393] A/CONF 157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 22.

[394] E/CN.4/1994/79, para. 103.

[395] See resolution 36/55.

[396] See A/55/280 and Add.1 and 2.

[397] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

Rapporteur on religious intolerance to Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief;

12. *Takes note* of the study presented by the Special Rapporteur to the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance at its first session, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to contribute to the preparations for the Conference, which is to be held at Durban, South Africa, in 2001, on matters relating to religious intolerance that have a bearing on the World Conference;

13. *Encourages* Governments to give serious consideration to inviting the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries so as to enable him to fulfil his mandate even more effectively;

14. *Welcomes* the initiatives of Governments and non-governmental organizations to collaborate with the Special Rapporteur, including by the convening of an international consultative conference on school education in relation to freedom of religion and belief, tolerance and non-discrimination, to be held at Madrid in November 2001, and encourages Governments, non-governmental organizations and other interested parties to participate actively in that conference;

15. *Encourages* Governments, when seeking the assistance of the United Nations Programme of Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights, to consider, where appropriate, including requests for assistance for the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion;

16. *Welcomes and encourages* the continuing efforts of non-governmental organizations and religious bodies and groups to promote the implementation and dissemination of the Declaration, and encourages their work in promoting freedom of religion or belief and in highlighting cases of religious intolerance, discrimination and persecution;

17. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue its consideration of measures for the implementation of the Declaration;

18. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the resources necessary to enable him to discharge his mandate fully;

20. *Decides* to consider the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

## RESOLUTION 55/98

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[398]

### 55/98. Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998, by which it adopted by consensus the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, which is annexed to that resolution,

*Reiterating* the importance of the Declaration and its promotion and implementation,

*Taking note* of the decision of the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2000/61 of 26 April 2000[399] to request the Secretary-General to appoint, for a period of three years, a special representative who shall report on the situation of human rights defenders in all parts of the world and on possible means to enhance their protection in full compliance with the Declaration,

*Welcoming* the appointment by the Secretary-General of a special representative on human rights defenders,

*Noting with deep concern* that, in many countries, persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms are facing threats, harassment and insecurity as a result of those activities,

1. *Calls upon* all States to promote and give effect to the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;

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[398] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela.

[399] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

2. *Invites* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders in fulfilling her mandate;

3. *Requests* all concerned United Nations agencies and organizations, within their mandates, to provide all possible assistance and support to the Special Representative in the implementation of her programme of activities;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders;[400]

5. *Invites* the Commission on Human Rights to consider, at its fifty-seventh session, the report to be prepared by the Special Representative pursuant to Commission resolution 2000/61;

6. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

## RESOLUTION 55/99

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[401]

### 55/99. Strengthening of the rule of law

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* that, by adopting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[402] fifty-two years ago, Member States pledged themselves to achieve, in cooperation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Firmly convinced* that the rule of law is an essential factor in the protection of human rights, as stressed in the Declaration, and should continue to attract the attention of the international community,

*Convinced* that, through their own national legal and judicial systems, States must provide appropriate civil, criminal and administrative remedies for violations of human rights,

*Recognizing* the importance of the role that can be played by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in supporting national efforts to strengthen the institutions of the rule of law,

*Bearing in mind* that, in its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, the General Assembly entrusted the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with, inter alia, providing advisory services and technical and financial assistance in the field of human rights, enhancing international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights and coordinating human rights activities throughout the United Nations system,

*Recalling* the recommendation of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, that a comprehensive programme should be established within the United Nations with a view to helping States in the task of building and strengthening adequate national structures that have a direct impact on the overall observance of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law,[403]

*Recalling also* its resolution 53/142 of 9 December 1998 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/74 of 28 April 1999,[404]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[405]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the increasing number of Member States seeking assistance in strengthening and consolidating the rule of law and the support provided to these States through the technical cooperation programme of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as outlined in the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Praises* the efforts made by the Office of the High Commissioner to accomplish its ever-increasing tasks with the limited financial and personnel resources at its disposal;

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[400] A/55/292.

[401] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[402] Resolution 217 A (III).

[403] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 69.

[404] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[405] A/55/177.

4. *Expresses its deep concern* at the scarcity of means at the disposal of the Office of the High Commissioner for the fulfilment of its tasks;

5. *Notes with concern* that the United Nations Programme of Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights does not have sufficient funds to provide any substantial financial assistance to national projects that have a direct impact on the realization of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law in countries that are committed to those ends but are lacking the necessary means and resources;

6. *Welcomes* the deepening of the ongoing cooperation between the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant bodies and programmes of the United Nations system, with a view to enhancing system-wide coordination of assistance in human rights, democracy and the rule of law, and in this context notes the cooperation between the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the High Commissioner in providing technical assistance, at the request of States, in the promotion of the rule of law;

7. *Affirms* that the Office of the High Commissioner remains the focal point for coordinating system-wide attention for human rights, democracy and the rule of law;

8. *Encourages* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue the dialogue between her Office and other organs and agencies of the United Nations system, taking into account the need to explore new synergies with a view to obtaining increased financial assistance for human rights and the rule of law and to promoting inter-agency coordination, funding and allocation of responsibilities in order to improve efficiency and complementarity of action concerning, inter alia, assistance to States in strengthening the rule of law;

9. *Also encourages* the High Commissioner to continue to explore the possibility of further contact with and support from the international financial institutions, acting within their mandates, with a view to obtaining the technical and financial means to strengthen the capacity of the Office of the High Commissioner to provide assistance to national projects aiming at the realization of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law;

10. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue to accord high priority to the technical cooperation activities undertaken by her Office with regard to the rule of law and to continue to act as a catalyst in the system by, inter alia, helping other United Nations agencies and programmes, within their respective mandates, to include in their work, as appropriate, attention to institution-building in the area of the rule of law;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution and the above-mentioned recommendation of the World Conference on Human Rights.

## RESOLUTION 55/100

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94),[406] by a recorded vote of 106 to 1, with 67 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* United States of America

*Abstentions:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan

## 55/100. Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

*Recalling* the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[407] as well as article 12 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[408]

*Stressing* that, as stated in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[409] family reunification of documented migrants is an important factor in international migration and that remittances by documented migrants to their countries of origin often constitute a very important source of foreign exchange and are instrumental in improving the well-being of relatives left behind,

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[406] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bolivia, Cuba, El Salvador, Ghana and Honduras.

[407] Resolution 217 A (III).

[408] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[409] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

*Recalling* its resolution 54/169 of 17 December 1999,

1. *Once again calls upon* all States to guarantee the universally recognized freedom of travel to all foreign nationals legally residing in their territory;

2. *Reaffirms* that all Governments, in particular those of receiving countries, must recognize the vital importance of family reunification and promote its incorporation into national legislation in order to ensure protection of the unity of families of documented migrants;

3. *Calls upon* all States to allow, in conformity with international legislation, the free flow of financial remittances by foreign nationals residing in their territory to their relatives in the country of origin;

4. *Also calls upon* all States to refrain from enacting, and to repeal if it already exists, legislation intended as a coercive measure that discriminates against individuals or groups of legal migrants by adversely affecting family reunification and the right to send financial remittance to relatives in the country of origin;

5. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-seventh session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

## RESOLUTION 55/101

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94),[410] by a recorded vote of 104 to 52, with 15 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Argentina, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, Guatemala, Nauru, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Sao Tome and Principe, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, Uruguay

### 55/101. Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of a humanitarian character

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* that, in accordance with Article 56 of the Charter of the United Nations, all Member States have pledged themselves to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55, including universal respect for and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

*Recalling also* the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

*Reaffirming* that the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms must be considered a priority objective of the United Nations in accordance with its purposes and principles, in particular the purpose of international cooperation, and that, within the framework of these purposes and principles, the promotion and protection of all human rights are a legitimate concern of the international community,

*Considering* the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples to an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

*Recognizing* that the international community should devise ways and means to remove current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world, as well as continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights,

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[410] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, Burundi, Chad, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Sudan and United Republic of Tanzania.

*Reaffirming* that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations and that human rights and fundamental freedoms are the birthright of all human beings, the protection and promotion of such rights and freedoms being the first responsibility of Governments,

*Reaffirming also* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

*Reaffirming further* the various articles of the Charter setting out the respective powers and functions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, as the paramount framework for the achievement of the purposes of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming* the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations under other important instruments of international law, in particular those of international human rights and humanitarian law,

*Taking into account* that, in accordance with Article 103 of the Charter, in the event of a conflict between the obligations of the Members of the United Nations under the Charter and their obligations under any other international agreement, their obligations under the Charter shall prevail,

1. *Affirms* the solemn commitment of all States to enhance international cooperation in the field of human rights and in the solution to international problems of a humanitarian character in full compliance with the Charter of the United Nations, inter alia, by the strict observance of all the purposes and principles set forth in Articles 1 and 2 thereof;

2. *Stresses* the vital role of the work of United Nations and regional arrangements, acting consistently with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter, in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as in solving international problems of a humanitarian character, and affirms that all States in these activities must fully comply with the principles set forth in Article 2 of the Charter, in particular respecting the sovereign equality of all States and refraining from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or acting in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations shall promote universal respect for and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion;

4. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate fully, through constructive dialogue, in order to ensure the promotion and protection of all human rights for all and in promoting peaceful solutions to international problems of a humanitarian character and, in their actions towards that purpose, to comply strictly with the principles and norms of international law, inter alia, by fully respecting international human rights and humanitarian law;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, organs, bodies and other components of the United Nations system, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

6. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

## RESOLUTION 55/102

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94),[411] by a recorded vote of 112 to 46, with 15 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

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[411] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

*Abstentions:* Argentina, Armenia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Micronesia (Federated States of), Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Singapore, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

## 55/102. Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing in particular the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[412] as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[413]

*Recalling also* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[414] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[414]

*Recalling further* the Declaration on the Right to Development adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration[415] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third[416] and twenty-fourth[417] special sessions of the General Assembly, held, respectively, in New York from 5 to 10 June 2000 and Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

*Recognizing* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

*Realizing* that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more exposed to external developments, positive as well as negative, including in the field of human rights,

*Realizing also* that globalization is not merely an economic process but also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

*Recognizing* that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization,

*Expressing concern* at the negative impact of international financial turbulence on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

*Deeply concerned* that the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, and within countries, has contributed, inter alia, to deepening poverty and has adversely affected the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries,

*Noting* that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of human rights and cultural diversity and that, in this regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Recognizes* that, while globalization, by its impact on, inter alia, the role of the State, may affect human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is first and foremost the responsibility of the State;

2. *Reaffirms* that narrowing the gap between rich and poor, both within and between countries, is an explicit goal at the national and international levels, as part of the effort to create an enabling environment for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

3. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to create an environment at both the national and global levels that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty through, inter alia, good governance within each country and at the international level, transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

4. *Recognizes* that, while globalization offers great opportunities, its benefits are very unevenly shared and its costs are unevenly distributed, an aspect of the process that affects the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries;

5. *Also recognizes* that, only through broad and sustained efforts, including policies and measures at the global level to create a shared future based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable and have a human face, thus contributing to the full enjoyment of all human rights;

6. *Affirms* that globalization is a complex process of structural transformation, with numerous interdisciplinary aspects, which has an impact on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

7. *Also affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by

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[412] Resolution 217 A (III).

[413] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[414] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[415] See resolution 55/2.

[416] Resolutions S-23/2, annex, and S-23/3, annex.

[417] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

globalization in a manner that ensures respect for the cultural diversity of all;

8. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to continue to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

9. *Takes note* of the preliminary report of the Secretary-General on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,[418] and requests the Secretary-General, taking into account the different views of Member States, to submit a comprehensive report on this subject to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/103

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[419]

### 55/103. Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[420] the International Covenants on Human Rights[421] and the other relevant international human rights instruments,

*Recalling* its resolution 33/173 of 20 December 1978 concerning disappeared persons and its previous resolutions on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances, in particular resolution 53/150 of 9 December 1998,

*Recalling also* its resolution 47/133 of 18 December 1992 proclaiming the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as a body of principles for all States,

*Expressing concern* that, according to the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances of the Commission on Human Rights, the practice of a number of States can run counter to the Declaration,

*Deeply concerned*, in particular, by the intensification of enforced disappearances in various regions of the world and by the growing number of reports concerning the harassment, ill-treatment and intimidation of witnesses of disappearances or relatives of persons who have disappeared,

*Emphasizing* that impunity with regard to enforced disappearances contributes to the perpetuation of this phenomenon and constitutes one of the obstacles to the elucidation of its manifestations,

*Taking note with interest* of the initiatives taken at the national and international levels in order to end impunity,

*Bearing in mind* Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/37 of 20 April 2000,[422]

*Taking note* of the transmission by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights[423] to the Commission on Human Rights of a draft international convention on the protection of all persons from forced disappearance,[424]

*Convinced* that further efforts are needed to promote wider awareness of and respect for the Declaration, and taking note in this regard of the report of the Secretary-General on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances,[425]

1. *Reaffirms* that any act of enforced disappearance is an offence to human dignity and a grave and flagrant violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[420] and reaffirmed and developed in other international instruments in this field, as well as a violation of the rules of international law;

2. *Urges* all Governments to take appropriate legislative or other steps to prevent and suppress the practice of enforced disappearances, in keeping with the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and to take action to that end at the national and regional levels and in cooperation with the United Nations, including through the provision of technical assistance;

3. *Calls upon* Governments to take steps to ensure that, when a state of emergency is introduced, the protection of human rights is ensured, in particular as regards the prevention of enforced disappearances;

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[418] A/55/342.

[419] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[420] Resolution 217 A (III).

[421] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[422] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[423] Formerly known as the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (see Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256).

[424] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/19, annex.

[425] A/55/289.

4. *Reminds* Governments that impunity with regard to enforced disappearances contributes to the perpetuation of this phenomenon and constitutes one of the obstacles to the elucidation of its manifestations, and in this respect also reminds them of the need to ensure that their competent authorities conduct prompt and impartial inquiries in all circumstances in which there is a reason to believe that an enforced disappearance has occurred in territory under their jurisdiction, and that, if allegations are confirmed, perpetrators should be prosecuted;

5. *Once again urges* the Governments concerned to take steps to protect the families of disappeared persons against any intimidation or ill-treatment to which they may be subjected;

6. *Encourages* States, as some have already done, to provide concrete information on measures taken to give effect to the Declaration, as well as obstacles encountered;

7. *Requests* all States to consider the possibility of disseminating the text of the Declaration in their respective national languages and to facilitate its dissemination in local languages;

8. *Notes* the action taken by non-governmental organizations to encourage implementation of the Declaration, and invites them to continue to facilitate its dissemination and to contribute to the work of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights;

9. *Requests* the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances of the Commission on Human Rights, in the continued exercise of its mandate, to take into account the provisions of the Declaration and to modify its working methods, if necessary;

10. *Recalls* the importance of the Working Group, the primary role of which is, as described in its reports, to act as a channel of communication between the families of disappeared persons and the Governments concerned, with a view to ensuring that sufficiently documented and clearly identified individual cases are investigated, and to ascertain whether such information falls under its mandate and contains the required elements, and invites the Group to continue to seek the views and comments of all concerned, including Member States, in preparing its reports;

11. *Invites* the Working Group to identify obstacles to the realization of the provisions of the Declaration, to recommend ways of overcoming those obstacles and, in this regard, to continue a dialogue with Governments and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

12. *Encourages* the Working Group to continue to consider the question of impunity, in the light of the relevant provisions of the Declaration and of the final reports submitted by the special rapporteurs[426] appointed by the Subcommission;

13. *Requests* the Working Group to pay the utmost attention to cases of children subjected to enforced disappearance and children of disappeared persons and to cooperate closely with the Governments concerned to search for and identify those children;

14. *Appeals* to the Governments concerned, in particular those which have not yet replied to the communications transmitted by the Working Group, to cooperate fully with it and, in particular, to reply promptly to its requests for information so that, while respecting its working methods based on discretion, it may perform its strictly humanitarian role;

15. *Encourages* the Governments concerned to give serious consideration to inviting the Working Group to visit their countries so as to enable the Group to fulfil its mandate even more effectively;

16. *Expresses its profound thanks* to the many Governments that have cooperated with the Working Group and replied to its requests for information and to the Governments that have invited the Group to visit their countries, requests them to give all necessary attention to the recommendations of the Group, and invites them to inform the Group of any action they take on those recommendations;

17. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to study this question as a matter of priority and to take any steps it may deem necessary to the pursuit of the task of the Working Group and to the follow-up to its recommendations when it considers the report to be submitted by the Group to the Commission at its fifty-seventh session;

18. *Renews its requests* to the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Working Group with all of the facilities it requires to perform its functions, especially for carrying out missions and following them up;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the steps he takes to secure the widespread dissemination and promotion of the Declaration;

20. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-seventh session a report on the steps taken to implement the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to consider the question of enforced disappearances, and in particular the implementation of the Declaration, at its fifty-seventh session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

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[426] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/8 and E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/20/Rev.1.

## RESOLUTION 55/104

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[427]

### 55/104. Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

*The General Assembly*,

*Bearing in mind* that among the purposes of the United Nations are those of developing friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and taking other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, as well as achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

*Desirous* of achieving further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Considering* that such international cooperation should be based on the principles embodied in international law, especially the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[428] the International Covenants on Human Rights[429] and other relevant instruments,

*Deeply convinced* that United Nations action in this field should be based not only on a profound understanding of the broad range of problems existing in all societies but also on full respect for the political, economic and social realities of each of them, in strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and for the basic purpose of promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through international cooperation,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions in this regard,

*Reaffirming* the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues, as affirmed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[430]

*Affirming* the importance of the objectivity, independence and discretion of the special rapporteurs and representatives on thematic issues and on countries, as well as of the members of the working groups, in carrying out their mandates,

*Underlining* the obligation that Governments have to promote and protect human rights and to carry out the responsibilities that they have undertaken under international law, especially the Charter, as well as various international instruments in the field of human rights,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right within the provisions of the Charter, including respect for territorial integrity;

2. *Reaffirms* that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States, in cooperation with the Organization, to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to base their activities for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the development of further international cooperation in this field, on the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[428] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[429] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[429] and other relevant international instruments, and to refrain from activities that are inconsistent with that international framework;

4. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and to the strengthening of international peace and security;

5. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as a legitimate concern of the world community, should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends;

6. *Requests* all human rights bodies within the United Nations system, as well as the special rapporteurs and representatives, independent experts and working groups, to

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[427] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Peru, Rwanda, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[428] Resolution 217 A (III).

[429] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[430] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

take duly into account the contents of the present resolution in carrying out their mandates;

7. *Expresses its conviction* that an unbiased and fair approach to human rights issues contributes to the promotion of international cooperation as well as to the effective promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Stresses*, in this context, the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

9. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting, as appropriate, within the framework of their respective legal systems and in accordance with their obligations under international law, especially the Charter, and international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to take duly into account the present resolution and to consider further proposals for the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity;

11. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[431] and requests the Secretary-General to invite Member States to present practical proposals and ideas that would contribute to the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights, through the promotion of international cooperation based on the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, and to submit a comprehensive report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

12. *Decides* to consider this matter at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

## RESOLUTION 55/105

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[432]

### 55/105. Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 32/127 of 16 December 1977 and all its subsequent resolutions concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recalling also* Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/51 of 9 March 1993[433] and its subsequent resolutions in this regard,

*Bearing in mind* the relevant resolutions of the Commission concerning advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights, including its most recent on that subject, resolution 2000/80 of 26 April 2000,[434]

*Bearing in mind also* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[435] which reiterates, inter alia, the need to consider the possibility of establishing regional and subregional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights where they do not already exist,

*Recalling* that the World Conference recommended that more resources should be made available for the strengthening of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights under the programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,

*Reaffirming* that regional arrangements play a fundamental role in promoting and protecting human rights and should reinforce universal human rights standards, as contained in international human rights instruments, and their protection,

*Noting* the progress achieved so far in the promotion and protection of human rights at the regional level under the auspices of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the regional intergovernmental organizations,

*Considering* that cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements in the field of human rights continues to be both substantive and supportive and that possibilities exist for increased cooperation,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[436]

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[431] A/55/213 and Add.1 and 2.

[432] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela.

[433] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1993/23 and Corr.2, 4 and 5), chap. II, sect. A.

[434] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[435] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[436] A/55/279.

2. *Welcomes* the continuing cooperation and assistance of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the further strengthening of the existing regional arrangements and regional machinery for the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular through technical cooperation which is aimed at national capacity-building, public information and education, with a view to exchanging information and experience in the field of human rights;

3. *Also welcomes*, in that respect, the close cooperation of the Office of the High Commissioner in the organization of regional and subregional training courses and workshops in the field of human rights, high-level governmental expert meetings and regional conferences of national human rights institutions, aimed at creating greater understanding in the regions of issues concerning the promotion and protection of human rights, improving procedures and examining the various systems for the promotion and protection of universally accepted human rights standards, and identifying obstacles to ratification of the principal international human rights treaties and strategies to overcome them;

4. *Recognizes*, therefore, that progress in promoting and protecting all human rights depends primarily on efforts made at the national and local levels and that the regional approach should imply intensive cooperation and coordination with all partners involved;

5. *Stresses* the importance of the programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights, renews its appeal to all Governments to consider making use of the possibilities offered by the United Nations under this programme of organizing information or training courses at the national level for government personnel on the application of international human rights standards and the experience of relevant international bodies, and notes with satisfaction, in that respect, the establishment of technical cooperation projects with Governments of all regions;

6. *Welcomes* the growing exchanges between the United Nations and the bodies created by the United Nations in accordance with the treaties dealing with human rights, on the one hand, and regional intergovernmental organizations, such as the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, on the other;

7. *Also welcomes* the appointment by the High Commissioner of four human rights personalities to serve as regional advisors, who will play a significant role in the promotion of human rights and human rights advocacy through the design of strategies and the development of partnerships for human rights, facilitate coordination of human rights technical cooperation in the region and assist regional cooperation at large, for example, among national institutions, parliamentary human rights bodies, bar associations and non-governmental organizations;

8. *Recalls* in this regard the positive experience of the presence of the Office of the High Commissioner in southern Africa, which will serve as guidance in the development of the regional approach of the Office of the High Commissioner;

9. *Notes with interest* the programme for Africa of the Office of the High Commissioner and the objective of strengthening cooperation between the Office of the High Commissioner and the Organization of African Unity with a view to reviewing, on a regular basis, needs in the area of human rights in the various subregions;

10. *Also notes with interest* the further developments in the implementation of the Framework for Regional Technical Cooperation for the Asia-Pacific Region, which is enhancing technical cooperation in the promotion and protection of human rights in the region;[437]

11. *Takes note with interest* of the Quito Framework for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, which serves as a basis for the regional strategy of the Office of the High Commissioner and aims at strengthening national capacities for the promotion of human rights in Latin America and the Caribbean;

12. *Welcomes* the continued cooperation between the Office of the High Commissioner and regional organizations in Europe and Central Asia, in particular in the development, as a priority, of a regional approach to preventing trafficking in persons;

13. *Invites* States in areas in which regional arrangements in the field of human rights do not yet exist to consider concluding agreements with a view to establishing, within their respective regions, suitable regional machinery for the promotion and protection of human rights;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as foreseen in programme 19 (Human rights) of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001,[438] to continue to strengthen exchanges between the United Nations and regional intergovernmental organizations dealing with human rights and to make available adequate resources from within the regular budget of technical cooperation to the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner to promote regional arrangements;

15. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to pay special attention to the most appropriate ways of assisting, at their request, countries of the various regions under the programme of technical cooperation and to make, where necessary, relevant recommendations;

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[437] Ibid., sect. III.B.

[438] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/53/6/Rev.1).

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the state of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights and to include therein the results of action taken in pursuance of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to consider this question further at its fifty-seventh session.

## RESOLUTION 55/106

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[439]

### 55/106. Human rights and extreme poverty

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[440] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[441] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[441] and other human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations,

*Considering* the relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[442] and of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, adopted by the World Summit on 12 March 1995,[443] and the outcome document of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", adopted at Geneva on 1 July 2000,[444]

*Recalling* its resolutions 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it declared 17 October the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, 48/183 of 21 December 1993, by which it proclaimed 1996 the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty, 50/107 of 20 December 1995, by which it proclaimed the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), 51/97 of 12 December 1996 on human rights and extreme poverty, 52/193 of 18 December 1997, in which it emphasized the follow-up to the Decade, and 53/146 of 9 December 1998 on human rights and extreme poverty,

*Recalling also* its resolution 52/134 of 12 December 1997, in which it recognized that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights was essential for the understanding, promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Recalling further* its resolution 54/232 of 22 December 1999, in which it expressed its deep concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected group,

*Bearing in mind* Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1992/11 of 21 February 1992,[445] 1993/13 of 26 February 1993,[446] 1994/12 of 25 February 1994,[447] 1995/16 of 24 February 1995,[448] 1996/10 of 11 April 1996,[449] 1997/11 of 3 April 1997,[450] 1998/25 of 17 April 1998,[451] 1999/26 of 26 April 1999,[452] and 2000/12 of 17 April 2000,[453] as well as resolution 1996/23 of 29 August 1996[454] of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,[455]

*Recalling* its resolution 47/134 of 18 December 1992, in which it reaffirmed that extreme poverty and exclusion from society constituted a violation of human dignity and stressed the need for a complete and in-depth study of extreme poverty, based on the experience and the thoughts of the poorest people,

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[439] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

[440] Resolution 217 A (III).

[441] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[442] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[443] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[444] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[445] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2* (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[446] Ibid., *1993, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1993/23 and Corr.2, 4 and 5), chap. II, sect. A.

[447] Ibid., *1994, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1994/24 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[448] Ibid., *1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[449] Ibid., *1996, Supplement No. 3* (E/1996/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[450] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[451] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[452] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[453] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[454] See E/CN.4/1997/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1996/41, chap. II, sect. A.

[455] Subsequently renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (see Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256).

*Recognizing* that the eradication of extreme poverty is a major challenge within the process of globalization and requires coordinated and continued policies through decisive national action and international cooperation,

*Reaffirming* that, as the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and might, in some situations, constitute a threat to the right to life, its immediate alleviation and eventual eradication must remain a high priority for the international community,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[456]

*Taking note with satisfaction* of the interim[457] and progress[458] reports submitted to the Commission on Human Rights by the independent expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty and the recommendations contained therein,

1. *Reaffirms* that extreme poverty and exclusion from society constitute a violation of human dignity and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to eliminate them;

2. *Also reaffirms* that it is essential for States to foster participation by the poorest people in the decision-making process in the societies in which they live, in the promotion of human rights and in efforts to combat extreme poverty, and for people living in poverty and vulnerable groups to be empowered to organize themselves and to participate in all aspects of political, economic and social life, in particular the planning and implementation of policies that affect them, thus enabling them to become genuine partners in development;

3. *Emphasizes* that extreme poverty is a major issue to be addressed by Governments, civil society and the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, and in this context reaffirms that political commitment is a prerequisite for the eradication of poverty;

4. *Recognizes* that surmounting extreme poverty constitutes an essential means to the full enjoyment of political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights, and reaffirms the interrelationship among these goals;

5. *Reaffirms* that the existence of widespread absolute poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and renders democracy and popular participation fragile;

6. *Also reaffirms* the commitments on development and poverty eradication contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[456]

7. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within the framework of the implementation of the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, to continue to give appropriate attention to the question of human rights and extreme poverty;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the specific actions taken by the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to mitigate the effects of extreme poverty on children and the efforts of the United Nations Development Programme to give priority to the search for some means of alleviating poverty within the framework of the relevant resolutions, and urges them to continue this work;

9. *Calls upon* States, United Nations bodies, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to continue to give appropriate attention to the links between human rights and extreme poverty;

10. *Decides* to consider this question further at its fifty-seventh session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

## RESOLUTION 55/107

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94),[459] by a recorded vote of 109 to 52, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines,

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[456] See resolution 55/2.

[457] E/CN.4/1999/48.

[458] E/CN.4/2000/52.

[459] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guinea, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Argentina, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Morocco, Paraguay, Peru, Senegal

## 55/107. Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

*The General Assembly*,

*Noting* the adoption by the Commission on Human Rights of its resolution 2000/62 of 26 April 2000,[460]

*Reaffirming* the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments relating to human rights and international law,

*Affirming* that the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights should continue to be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law as set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter and, inter alia, with full respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State,

*Recalling* the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

*Reaffirming* that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[461] can be fully realized,

*Reaffirming also* the determination expressed in the Preamble to the Charter to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, to practise tolerance and good-neighbourliness, and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

*Considering* the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

*Considering also* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

*Reaffirming* that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

*Emphasizing* that democracy is not only a political concept but also has economic and social dimensions,

*Recognizing* that democracy, respect for all human rights, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development,

*Underlining* the fact that it is imperative for the international community to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people, and that only through broad and sustained efforts, based on common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable,

*Stressing* that efforts to make globalization fully inclusive and equitable must include policies and measures, at the global level, that correspond to the needs of developing countries and economies in transition and are formulated and implemented with their effective participation,

*Resolved*, on the eve of a new century and millennium, to take all measures within its power to secure a democratic and equitable international order,

1. *Affirms* that everyone is entitled to a democratic and equitable international order;

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[460] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[461] Resolution 217 A (III).

2. *Also affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order fosters the full respect for and realization of all human rights for all;

3. *Further affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order requires, inter alia, the realization of the following:

(*a*) The right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(*b*) The right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources;

(*c*) The right of every human person and all peoples to development;

(*d*) The right of all peoples to peace;

(*e*) The promotion of an international economic order based on equal participation in the decision-making process, interdependence, mutual interest, solidarity and cooperation among all States;

(*f*) Solidarity, as a fundamental value, by virtue of which global challenges must be managed in a way that distributes costs and burdens fairly in accordance with basic principles of equity and social justice and ensures that those who suffer or who benefit the least receive help from those who benefit the most;

(*g*) The promotion and consolidation of transparent, democratic, just and accountable international institutions in all areas of cooperation, in particular through the implementation of the principles of full and equal participation in their respective decision-making mechanisms;

(*h*) The principle of equitable regional and gender-balanced representation in the composition of the staff of all bodies within the United Nations system;

(*i*) The promotion of a free, just, effective and balanced international information and communication order, based on international cooperation for the establishment of a new equilibrium and greater reciprocity in the international flow of information, in particular, correcting the inequalities in the flow of information to and from developing countries;

(*j*) The respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all, since this enhances cultural pluralism, contributes to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural backgrounds, advances the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and fosters stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

(*k*) The entitlement of every person and all peoples to a healthy environment;

(*l*) The promotion of equitable access to benefits from the international distribution of wealth through enhanced international cooperation, in particular in economic, commercial and financial international relations;

(*m*) The enjoyment by everyone of the common heritage of mankind;

4. *Stresses* the importance of preserving the rich and diverse nature of the international community of nations and peoples, as well as respect for national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;

5. *Also stresses* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and reaffirms that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

6. *Reaffirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries;

7. *Recalls* the proclamation by the General Assembly of the determination to work urgently for the establishment of a new international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and cooperation among all States, irrespective of their economic and social systems, which shall correct inequalities and redress existing injustices, make it possible to eliminate the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries and ensure steadily accelerating economic and social development and peace and justice for present and future generations;[462]

8. *Reaffirms* that the international community should devise ways and means to remove the current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world;

9. *Urges* States to continue their efforts, through enhanced international cooperation, towards the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

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[462] See resolution 3201 (S-VI).

10. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights, the human rights treaty bodies, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to pay due attention, within their respective mandates, to the present resolution and to make contributions for its implementation;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs, bodies and components, intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

12. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

## RESOLUTION 55/108

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[463]

### 55/108. The right to development

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations, expressing in particular the determination to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

*Recalling* that the Declaration on the Right to Development[464] confirmed that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations,

*Noting* that the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, reaffirmed the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of all fundamental human rights,[465]

*Recognizing* that the Declaration on the Right to Development constitutes an integral link between the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[466] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993[465] through its elaboration of a holistic vision integrating economic, social and cultural rights with civil and political rights,

*Expressing its concern* that, more than fifty years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the unacceptable situation of absolute poverty, hunger, disease, lack of adequate shelter, illiteracy and hopelessness remains the lot of over one billion people,

*Emphasizing* that the promotion, protection and realization of the right to development are an integral part of the promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Noting* that the human person is the central subject of development and that development policy should therefore make the human being the main participant in and beneficiary of development,

*Stressing* the importance of creating an economic, political, social, cultural and legal environment that will enable people to achieve social development,

*Affirming* the need to apply a gender perspective in the implementation of the right to development, inter alia, by ensuring that women play an active role in the development process,

*Emphasizing* that the empowerment of women and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society is fundamental for development,

*Underlining* the fact that the realization of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level,

*Welcoming* in this regard the adoption by the General Assembly of the Agenda for Development,[467] which declares that development is one of the main priorities of the United Nations and which aims at invigorating a renewed and strengthened partnership for development, based on the imperatives of mutual benefits and genuine interdependence,

*Noting with concern* that the Declaration on the Right to Development is insufficiently disseminated and should be taken into account, as appropriate, in bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes, national development strategies and policies and activities of international organizations,

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[463] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China), Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[464] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[465] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[466] Resolution 217 A (III).

[467] Resolution 51/240, annex.

*Recalling* the need for coordination and cooperation throughout the United Nations system for a more effective promotion and realization of the right to development,

*Underlining* the important role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and protection of the right to development, as mandated in paragraph 4 (*c*) of General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/175 of 17 December 1999,

*Taking note* of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/5 of 13 April 2000,[468]

*Welcoming* the report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the Right to Development on its second session,[469] including the proposed strategy contained therein, and welcoming in particular the recommendation that a follow-up mechanism should be established to ensure promotion and implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the right to development for every human person and all peoples in all countries, in particular the developing countries, as an integral part of their fundamental human rights, as well as the potential contribution that its realization could make to the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Recognizes* that the passage of more than fifty years since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[466] demands the strengthening of efforts to place all human rights and, in this context, the right to development in particular, at the top of the global agenda;

3. *Reiterates* that:

(*a*) The essence of the right to development is the principle that the human person is the central subject of development and that the right to life includes within it existence in human dignity with the minimum necessities of life;

(*b*) The existence of widespread absolute poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and renders democracy and popular participation fragile;

(*c*) For peace and stability to endure, national action and international action and cooperation are required to promote a better life for all in larger freedom, a critical element of which is the eradication of poverty;

4. *Reaffirms* that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and in this context affirms that:

(*a*) The development experiences of countries reflect differences with regard to both progress and setbacks, and that the development spectrum has a wide range, not only between countries but also within countries;

(*b*) A number of developing countries have experienced rapid economic growth in the recent past and have become dynamic partners in the international economy;

(*c*) At the same time, the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide and developing countries continue to face difficulties in participating in the globalization process, and many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

(*d*) Democracy, which is spreading everywhere, has raised development expectations everywhere, that their non-fulfilment risks rekindling non-democratic forces, and that structural reforms that do not take social realities into account could destabilize democratization processes;

(*e*) Effective popular participation is an essential component of successful and lasting development;

(*f*) Democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development;

(*g*) The participation of developing countries in the international economic decision-making process needs to be broadened and strengthened;

5. *Urges* all States to eliminate all obstacles to development at all levels by pursuing the promotion and protection of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights, implementing comprehensive development programmes at the national level, integrating those rights into development activities and promoting effective international cooperation;

6. *Reaffirms* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the universality, objectivity, impartiality and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues must be ensured;

7. *Affirms* that international cooperation is acknowledged more than ever as a necessity deriving from recognized mutual interest and, therefore, that such cooperation should be strengthened in order to support the efforts of developing countries to solve their economic and social problems and to fulfil their obligations to promote and protect all human rights;

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[468] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[469] E/CN.4/1998/29.

8. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to give high priority to the right to development, and urges all States to promote further the right to development as a vital element in a balanced human rights programme;

9. *Also welcomes* the high priority assigned by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to activities relating to the right to development, and urges the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to implement Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/72 of 22 April 1998;[470]

10. *Further welcomes* Economic and Social Council decision 1998/269 of 30 July 1998 authorizing the establishment by the Commission on Human Rights of a follow-up mechanism, consisting of an open-ended working group on the right to development and an independent expert with a mandate to submit to the working group at each of its sessions a study on the current state of progress in the implementation of the right to development, as provided for in Commission resolution 1998/72;

11. *Welcomes* the holding at Geneva from 18 to 22 September 2000 of the first session of the Open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development under the chairmanship of Mr. M. S. Dembri (Algeria), and encourages the Working Group to proceed with its second session, scheduled for January 2001;

12. *Takes note* of the coordination mechanisms and initiatives within the United Nations system in which the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights participates to promote the implementation of the right to development;

13. *Also takes note* of the second report of the independent expert on the right to development,[471] which focuses on poverty eradication as a priority area requiring attention in the realization of the right to development;

14. *Further takes note* of the *Human Development Report 2000*, of the United Nations Development Programme,[472] and the *World Development Report 2000/2001: Attacking Poverty*, of the World Bank,[473] which cover issues relevant to human rights and the right to development, and welcomes the participation in the Working Group of representatives of international financial institutions, as well as that of relevant United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes and non-governmental organizations, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council;

15. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit a report to the Commission on Human Rights each year for the duration of the mechanism, to provide interim reports to the Working Group and to make those reports available to the independent expert, with each report covering:

(*a*) The activities of her Office relating to the implementation of the right to development, as contained in her mandate;

(*b*) The implementation of resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission with regard to the right to development;

(*c*) Inter-agency coordination within the United Nations system for the implementation of relevant resolutions of the Commission in that regard;

16. *Urges* the United Nations system to continue to support the implementation of the recent resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights regarding the right to development;

17. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Working Group and the independent expert receive all necessary assistance, in particular the staff and resources required to fulfil their mandates;

18. *Calls upon* the Working Group to take note of the deliberations on the right to development during the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly and the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on Human Rights, and any other issue relevant to the right to development;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-seventh session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the various provisions of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question, as a matter of priority, at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/109

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[474]

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[470] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[471] See A/55/306.

[472] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.III.B.8.

[473] Published for the World Bank by Oxford University Press, New York, 2000.

[474] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Botswana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China) and El Salvador.

### 55/109. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/181 of 17 December 1999, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/70 of 26 April 2000 on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,[475] and recalling also Assembly resolution 54/113 of 10 December 1999 on the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to promoting international cooperation, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 1, paragraph 3, as well as relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[476] for enhancing genuine cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights,

*Recognizing* that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Recognizing also* the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues, and underlining the importance of the promotion of dialogue on human rights issues,

*Reaffirming* that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations in the field of human rights could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation in this field,

*Emphasizing* the need for further progress in the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, in particular, international cooperation,

*Underlining* the fact that mutual understanding, dialogue, cooperation, transparency and confidence-building are important elements in all the activities for the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recalling* the adoption of resolution 1999/25 of 26 August 1999, entitled "Promotion of dialogue on human rights issues", by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-first session,[477] and noting its consideration of the question of a dialogue among civilizations at its fifty-second session,

1. *Reaffirms* that it is one of the purposes of the United Nations and the responsibility of all Member States to promote, protect and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation;

2. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field, in conformity with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing violations of human rights and of fundamental freedoms for all;

3. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms should be guided by the principles of universality, non-selectivity, objectivity and transparency, in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter;

4. *Calls upon* Member States, specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to continue to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations for the enhancement of understanding and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

5. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

6. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/110

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94),[478] by a recorded vote of 117 to 49, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe,

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[475] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[476] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[477] See E/CN.4/2000/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/54, chap. II, sect. A.

[478] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, and Botswana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China).

Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Abstentions:* Azerbaijan, Fiji, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

## 55/110. Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/103 of 12 December 1996, 52/120 of 12 December 1997, 53/141 of 9 December 1998 and 54/172 of 17 December 1999, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/11 of 9 April 1998,[479] and taking note of Commission resolution 2000/11 of 17 April 2000,[480]

*Reaffirming* the pertinent principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in particular article 32 thereof, in which it declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

*Taking note* of the report submitted by the Secretary-General,[481] pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/21 of 23 April 1999,[482] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 52/120,[483]

*Recognizing* the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and, in this regard, reaffirming the right to development as an integral part of all human rights,

*Recalling* that the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, called upon States to refrain from any unilateral coercive measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of all human rights,[484]

*Bearing in mind* all the references to this question in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, adopted by the World Summit for Social Development on 12 March 1995,[485] the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[486] and the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda, adopted by the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on 14 June 1996,[487]

*Expressing its concern* about the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures in the field of international relations, trade, investment and cooperation,

*Deeply concerned* that, despite the recommendations adopted on this question by the General Assembly and recent major United Nations conferences and contrary to general international law and the Charter of the United Nations, unilateral coercive measures continue to be promulgated and implemented with all their negative implications for the social-humanitarian activities and economic and social development of developing countries, including their extraterritorial effects, thereby creating additional obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples and individuals under the jurisdiction of other States,

*Bearing in mind* all the extraterritorial effects of any unilateral legislative, administrative and economic measures, policies and practices of a coercive nature against the development process and the enhancement of human rights in developing countries, which create obstacles to the full realization of all human rights,

*Noting* the continuing efforts of the Open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Commission on Human Rights, and reaffirming in particular its criteria according to which unilateral coercive measures are one of the obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[488]

1. *Urges* all States to refrain from adopting or implementing any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations, in

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[479] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[480] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[481] E/CN.4/2000/46 and Add.1.

[482] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[483] A/53/293 and Add.1.

[484] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect I, para. 31.

[485] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[486] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[487] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[488] Resolution 41/128, annex.

particular those of a coercive nature with all their extraterritorial effects, which create obstacles to trade relations among States, thus impeding the full realization of the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[489] and other international human rights instruments, in particular the right of individuals and peoples to development;

2. *Invites* all States to consider adopting administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial application or effects of unilateral coercive measures;

3. *Rejects* unilateral coercive measures with all their extraterritorial effects as tools for political or economic pressure against any country, in particular against developing countries, because of their negative effects on the realization of all the human rights of vast sectors of their populations, in particular children, women and the elderly;

4. *Calls upon* Member States that have initiated such measures to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international human rights instruments to which they are party by revoking such measures at the earliest time possible;

5. *Reaffirms*, in this context, the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

6. *Urges* the Commission on Human Rights to take fully into account the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures, including the enactment of national laws and their extraterritorial application, in its task concerning the implementation of the right to development;

7. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in discharging her functions relating to the promotion, realization and protection of the right to development and bearing in mind the continuing impact of unilateral coercive measures on the population of developing countries, to give priority to the present resolution in her annual report to the General Assembly;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, to continue to collect their views and information on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on their populations and to submit an analytical report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, highlighting the practical and preventive measures in this respect;

9. *Decides* to examine this question on a priority basis at its fifty-sixth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

## RESOLUTION 55/111

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.2 and Corr.1, para. 94)[490]

### 55/111. Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[491] which guarantees the right to life, liberty and security of person, and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[492]

*Recalling also* its resolutions 47/136 of 18 December 1992, 51/92 of 12 December 1996 and 53/147 of 9 December 1998, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1992/72 of 5 March 1992[493] and 1998/68 of 21 April 1998,[494] and taking note of Commission resolution 2000/31 of 20 April 2000,[495]

*Recalling further* Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/50 of 25 May 1984 and the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty annexed thereto and Council resolution 1989/64 of 24 May 1989 on their implementation, as well as the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/34 of 29 November 1985,

*Deeply alarmed* at the persistence, on a large scale, of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions in all parts of the world,

*Dismayed* that in a number of countries impunity, the negation of justice, continues to prevail and often remains the main cause of the continuing occurrence of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions in those countries,

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[489] Resolution 217 A (III).

[490] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela.

[491] Resolution 217 A (III).

[492] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[493] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2* (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[494] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[495] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

*Recognizing* the contribution of the establishment of the International Criminal Court with regard to ensuring effective prosecution concerning executions in serious violation of article 3 common to the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[496] without previous judgement pronounced by a regularly constituted court affording all judicial guarantees that are generally recognized as indispensable,

*Convinced* of the need for effective action to combat and eliminate the abhorrent practice of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, which represent a flagrant violation of the fundamental right to life,

1. *Strongly condemns once again* all the extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions that continue to take place throughout the world;

2. *Notes* that impunity continues to be a major cause of the perpetuation of violations of human rights, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;

3. *Acknowledges* the historic significance of the adoption of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[497] and the fact that a significant number of States have already signed and/or ratified the Statute, and calls upon all States to consider signing and ratifying the Statute;

4. *Demands* that all Governments ensure that the practice of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions be brought to an end and that they take effective action to combat and eliminate the phenomenon in all its forms;

5. *Takes note* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions,[498] including the attention given therein to various aspects and situations involving violations of the right to life by extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;

6. *Reiterates* the obligation of all Governments to conduct exhaustive and impartial investigations into all suspected cases of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, to identify and bring to justice those responsible, while ensuring the right of every person to a fair and public hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law, to grant adequate compensation to the victims or their families and to adopt all necessary measures, including legal and judicial measures, in order to bring an end to impunity, to prevent the recurrence of such executions;

7. *Calls upon* Governments concerned to investigate promptly and thoroughly cases in various parts of the world of killings committed in the name of passion or in the name of honour, persons killed for reasons related to their peaceful activities as human rights defenders or as journalists, racially motivated violence leading to the death of the victim as well as other persons whose right to life has been violated, and to bring those responsible to justice before an independent and impartial judiciary, and to ensure that such killings are neither condoned nor sanctioned by government officials or personnel;

8. *Urges* Governments to undertake all necessary and possible measures to prevent loss of life, in particular that of children, during public demonstrations, internal and communal violence, civil unrest and public emergencies or armed conflict, and to ensure that the police and security forces receive thorough training in human rights matters, in particular with regard to restrictions on the use of force and firearms in the discharge of their functions;

9. *Stresses* the importance for States to take effective measures to end impunity with regard to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, inter alia, through the adoption of preventive measures, and calls upon Governments to ensure that such measures are included in post-conflict peace-building efforts;

10. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur to continue, within the framework of her mandate, to collect information from all concerned and to seek the views and comments of Governments so as to be able to respond effectively to reliable information that comes before her and to follow up communications and country visits;

11. *Reaffirms* Economic and Social Council decision 1998/265 of 30 July 1998, in which the Council endorsed the decision of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1998/68, to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for three years;

12. *Notes* the important role the Special Rapporteur has played in the elimination of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;

13. *Also notes* that the Commission, in its resolution 2000/31, requested the Special Rapporteur, in carrying out her mandate:

(*a*) To continue to examine situations of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and to submit her findings on an annual basis, together with conclusions and recommendations, to the Commission, as well as such other reports as the Special Rapporteur deems necessary in order to keep the Commission informed about serious situations of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions that warrant its immediate attention;

(*b*) To respond effectively to information that comes before her, in particular when an extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution is imminent or seriously threatened or when such an execution has occurred;

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[496] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[497] A/CONF.183/9.

[498] See A/55/288.

(*c*) To enhance further her dialogue with Governments, as well as to follow up on recommendations made in reports after visits to particular countries;

(*d*) To continue to pay special attention to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions of children and to allegations concerning violations of the right to life in the context of violence against participants in demonstrations and other peaceful public manifestations or against persons belonging to minorities;

(*e*) To pay special attention to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions where the victims are individuals carrying out peaceful activities in defence of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(*f*) To continue monitoring the implementation of existing international standards on safeguards and restrictions relating to the imposition of capital punishment, bearing in mind the comments made by the Human Rights Committee in its interpretation of article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[492] as well as the Second Optional Protocol thereto;[499]

(*g*) To apply a gender perspective in her work;

14. *Strongly urges* all Governments, in particular those that have not yet done so, to respond without undue delay to the communications and requests for information transmitted to them by the Special Rapporteur, and urges them and all others concerned to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur so that she may carry out her mandate effectively, including, where appropriate, by issuing invitations to the Special Rapporteur when she so requests;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that have invited the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries, asks them to examine carefully the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur and invites them to report to the Special Rapporteur on the actions taken on those recommendations, and requests other Governments to cooperate in a similar way;

16. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to organize training programmes and to support projects with a view to training or educating military forces, law enforcement officers and government officials, as well as members of United Nations peacekeeping or observer missions, in human rights and humanitarian law issues connected with their work, and appeals to the international community to support endeavours to that end;

17. *Urges* the Special Rapporteur to continue to bring to the attention of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights such situations of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions as are of particularly serious concern to her or where early action might prevent further deterioration;

18. *Welcomes* the cooperation established between the Special Rapporteur and other United Nations mechanisms and procedures relating to human rights, as well as with medical and forensic experts, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue efforts in that regard;

19. *Calls upon* the Governments of all States in which the death penalty has not been abolished to comply with their obligations under relevant provisions of international human rights instruments, keeping in mind the safeguards and guarantees referred to in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1984/50 and 1989/64;

20. *Again requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use his best endeavours in cases where the minimum standard of legal safeguards provided for in articles 6, 9, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights appears not to have been respected;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with an adequate and stable level of human, financial and material resources to enable her to carry out her mandate effectively, including through country visits;

22. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in close collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in conformity with the High Commissioner's mandate established by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to ensure that personnel specialized in human rights and humanitarian law issues form part of United Nations missions, where appropriate, in order to deal with serious violations of human rights, such as extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;

23. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the situation worldwide in regard to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and her recommendations for more effective action to combat that phenomenon.

## RESOLUTION 55/112

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.3, para. 49)[500]

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[499] Resolution 44/128, annex.

[500] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

## 55/112. Situation of human rights in Myanmar

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, as stated in the Charter of the United Nations and elaborated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[501] the International Covenants on Human Rights[502] and other applicable human rights instruments,

*Aware* that, in accordance with the Charter, the United Nations promotes and encourages respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government, and therefore expressing its grave concern that the Government of Myanmar has still not implemented its commitment to take all necessary steps towards democracy in the light of the results of the elections held in 1990,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/186 of 17 December 1999 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/58 of 3 March 1992,[503] in which the Commission, inter alia, decided to nominate a special rapporteur with a given mandate, and taking note of Commission resolution 2000/23 of 18 April 2000,[504] in which the Commission decided to extend for one year the mandate of its Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar,

*Recalling also* the observation made by the Special Rapporteur that the absence of respect for the rights pertaining to democratic governance is at the root of all major violations of human rights in Myanmar,

*Still gravely concerned* at the deterioration of the human rights situation in Myanmar, especially the unabated suppression of the exercise of political rights and freedom of thought, expression, association and movement in Myanmar, as reported by the Special Rapporteur, and deeply concerned that new restrictions have been placed on Aung San Suu Kyi and other members of the National League for Democracy,

*Also gravely concerned* that the legal system is effectively used as an instrument of oppression and at the increasing intimidation and detention of lawyers,

*Recognizing* that the systematic violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights by the Government of Myanmar have had a significant adverse effect on the health and welfare of the people of Myanmar,

*Noting with interest* the two recent visits to Myanmar by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General and the cooperation extended by the Government of Myanmar in that regard,

*Deeply regretting* the failure of the Government of Myanmar to cooperate fully with the relevant United Nations mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur, who still has not been invited to Myanmar, despite assurances by the Government of Myanmar in 1999 that it would seriously consider a visit,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar for his interim report,[505] and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to implement fully the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur;

2. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to cooperate fully and without further delay with the Special Rapporteur, and to allow him urgently, without preconditions, to conduct a field mission and to establish direct contacts with the Government and all other relevant sectors of society, thus enabling him fully to discharge his mandate;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, allowing the Committee to communicate with and visit detainees in accordance with its modalities of work, and hopes that the programme will be pursued further;

4. *Deplores* the continued violations of human rights in Myanmar, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, enforced disappearances, rape, torture, inhuman treatment, mass arrests, forced labour, including the use of children, forced relocation and denial of freedom of assembly, association, expression and movement, as reported by the Special Rapporteur;

5. *Expresses its grave concern* at the increasingly systematic policy of the Government of Myanmar to persecute the democratic opposition, members of the National League for Democracy, sympathizers and their families, and ethnic opposition parties, and at the use by the Government of intimidatory methods such as arbitrary arrest and detention and abuse of the legal system, including harsh long-term prison sentences, mass rallies and media campaigns, which have forced many to refrain from exercising their legitimate political rights;

6. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to cease, without delay, all activities aimed at preventing the free exercise of internationally recognized human rights, including freedom

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[501] Resolution 217 A (III).

[502] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[503] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2* (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[504] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[505] See A/55/359.

of association, assembly, movement and speech, and in particular to remove all restrictions on the freedom of movement of Aung San Suu Kyi and other members of the National League for Democracy and on their freedom to communicate with the outside world;

7. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to release immediately and unconditionally detained political leaders and all political prisoners, including journalists, to ensure their physical integrity and to permit them to participate in the process of national reconciliation;

8. *Expresses its concern* that the composition and working procedures of the National Convention do not permit either Members of Parliament-elect or representatives of the ethnic minorities to express their views freely, and urges the Government of Myanmar to seek new and constructive ways to promote national reconciliation and to restore democracy, through, inter alia, the establishment of a time frame for action;

9. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar, taking into account the assurances it has given on various occasions, to take all necessary steps towards the restoration of democracy, in accordance with the will of the people, as expressed in the democratic elections held in 1990 and, to that end, without delay, to engage in a substantive political dialogue with political leaders, including Aung San Suu Kyi, and representatives of ethnic groups, and, in that context, notes the existence of the committee representing the People's Parliament;

10. *Notes with grave concern* that the Government of Myanmar has failed to cease its widespread and systematic use of forced labour of its own people and to meet all three recommendations of the International Labour Organization on that issue; this failure has compelled the International Labour Organization to limit strictly further cooperation with the Government and has prompted the International Labour Conference to adopt, subject to certain conditions, a number of measures to secure compliance by the Government of Myanmar with the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry established to examine the observance of International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning forced or compulsory labour, of 1930;

11. *Notes* the recent visit by the technical cooperation mission of the International Labour Organization to Myanmar and the cooperation extended to the mission, while awaiting the results of the mission;

12. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to implement fully concrete legislative, executive and administrative measures to eradicate the practice of forced labour, in conformity with the relevant recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry;

13. *Welcomes* the reopening of most university courses, but remains concerned that the right to education continues to be a right that is exercised only by those willing to refrain from exercising their civil and political rights and concerned at the reduction in the length of the academic year, the division of the student population and its dispersal to distant campuses and the lack of adequate resources;

14. *Deplores* the continued violations of human rights, in particular those directed against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, including summary executions, rape, torture, forced labour, forced portering, forced relocations, use of anti-personnel landmines, destruction of crops and fields and dispossession of land and property, which deprives those persons of all means of subsistence and results in large-scale displacement of persons and flows of refugees to neighbouring countries, with negative effects for those countries, and an increasing number of internally displaced persons;

15. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to end the systematic enforced displacement of persons and other causes of refugee flows to neighbouring countries and to create conditions conducive to their voluntary return and full reintegration in conditions of safety and dignity and to allow the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to assist in the return and reintegration process;

16. *Deplores* the continued violations of the human rights of women, especially women who are refugees, are internally displaced or belong to ethnic minorities or the political opposition, in particular forced labour, trafficking, sexual violence and exploitation, including rape, as reported by the Special Rapporteur;[505]

17. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to implement fully the recommendations made by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, in particular the request to prosecute and punish those who violate the human rights of women, and to carry out human rights education and gender-sensitization training, in particular for military personnel;

18. *Deplores* the recruitment of children as soldiers, in particular children belonging to ethnic minorities, and strongly urges the Government of Myanmar and all other parties to the hostilities in Myanmar to end the use of children as soldiers;

19. *Expresses its concern* at the growing incidence of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) infection, and urges the Government of Myanmar urgently to address this issue, which will have a serious long-term impact on the development of the country, and to ensure that the health system receives sufficient funding to enable health workers to meet the right of all people to the highest possible standard of health care;

20. *Expresses its grave concern* at the high rates of malnutrition among pre-school-aged children, which constitute serious violations of their rights to adequate food and the highest attainable standard of health and may have serious repercussions for the health and development of the affected children;

21. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to ensure full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including economic and social rights, and to fulfil its obligation to restore the independence of the judiciary and due process and to end the impunity of and bring to justice any perpetrators of human rights violations, including members of the military, and to investigate and prosecute alleged violations committed by government agents in all circumstances;

22. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the visit of his Special Envoy to Myanmar,[506] endorses the appeal of the Special Envoy for the initiation of a process of dialogue that would lead to national reconciliation, and supports his efforts to achieve such a dialogue;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his discussions on the situation of human rights and the restoration of democracy with the Government of Myanmar, to submit additional reports to the General Assembly during its fifty-fifth session on the progress of those discussions, and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-seventh session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/113

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.3, para. 49)[507]

### 55/113. Situation of human rights in parts of South-Eastern Europe

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* all relevant resolutions on this subject, in particular Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/26 of 18 April 2000,[508] and all Security Council resolutions and presidential statements,

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[509] the International Covenants on Human Rights[510] and other human rights instruments, the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[511] the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war[512] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[513]

*Taking note* of the principles and commitments undertaken by participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

*Reaffirming* the territorial integrity of all States in the region, within their internationally recognized borders, taking fully into account all relevant Security Council resolutions,

*Expressing its full support* for the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement"),[514] which, inter alia, committed the parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to respect human rights fully, in particular issues surrounding the return of refugees,

*Expressing its support* for the democratic forces and non-governmental organizations in the promotion and protection of human rights and in strengthening civil society, and noting in this regard the opportunities afforded by the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, which was adopted at Cologne, Germany, on 10 June 1999,

*Welcoming* the admission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia into the framework of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe at the extraordinary session of the Regional Table of the Pact, held at Bucharest on 26 October 2000,

*Noting* the importance of the respect for the rights of all persons belonging to minorities,

*Welcoming* all contributions of the Office of the High Representative, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights and other entities of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the European Community Monitoring Mission, Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the area in 2000,

*Recalling* Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998) of 31 March 1998, 1199 (1998) of 23 September 1998, 1203 (1998) of 24 October 1998, 1239 (1999) of 14 May 1999 and 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, and the general principles annexed to that resolution, as well as the statement made on

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[506] A/55/509.

[507] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[508] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[509] Resolution 217 A (III).

[510] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[511] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[512] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[513] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[514] S/1995/999, annex.

24 March 1998 by the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights at the fifty-fourth session of the Commission,[515] Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1998/79 of 22 April 1998[516] and 1999/2 of 13 April 1999,[517] and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of 27 September 1999 on the situation of human rights in Kosovo,[518]

*Recalling also* its condemnation of the Serbian military offensive against the civilian population of Kosovo, which resulted in war crimes and gross violations of international human rights and international humanitarian law being inflicted upon the Kosovars,

*Condemning* all violations of human rights in Kosovo, which have affected all ethnic groups in Kosovo, in particular the harassment and murder of ethnic Serb, Roma and other minorities of Kosovo by ethnic Albanian extremists,

*Expressing concern* that the entire population of Kosovo has been affected by the conflict there and its aftermath, and stressing that all of the national, ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities there must benefit from their full and equal rights, without discrimination,

*Stressing*, in this context, the importance of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,

*Distressed* by the detention in Serbia of political prisoners of Kosovar Albanian or other origin, in violation of international human rights law and standards, but welcoming the pledge of authorities there to abide by international norms in carrying out judicial procedures in this and all other areas of judicial responsibility,

1. *Reiterates its call* for the full and consistent implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement")[514] by all parties;

2. *Stresses* the crucial role of human rights in the successful implementation of the Peace Agreement, and underlines the obligations of all parties under the Peace Agreement to comply with international human rights law and to secure for all persons within their jurisdiction the highest level of international norms and standards of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rule of law and effective administration of justice at all levels of government, the freedom and independence of the media, freedom of expression, freedom of association, including with respect to political parties, freedom of religion and freedom of movement;

3. *Also stresses* the need for enhanced international efforts to foster and effect the prompt and voluntary return of displaced persons and refugees in safety and with dignity;

4. *Condemns* the growing problem of trafficking in women in the region, and calls upon all concerned authorities to combat actively this criminal practice;

5. *Urges* all States and parties to the Peace Agreement that have not done so to meet their obligations to cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, as required by Security Council resolution 827 (1993) of 25 May 1993 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, and in particular to comply with their obligations to arrest and transfer to the custody of the Tribunal those indicted persons present in their territories or under their control;

6. *Notes* that varying degrees of progress have been made in the human rights situation in all States and by all parties to the Peace Agreement, but that substantial efforts remain to be made in several areas;

7. *Reiterates its call* upon all States and parties to the Peace Agreement to ensure that the promotion and protection of human rights and effective, functioning democratic institutions will be central elements in developing civilian structures;

8. *Notes* the progress made by Bosnia and Herzegovina in the implementation of the Peace Agreement;

9. *Also notes* the progress made with regard to refugee returns in Bosnia and Herzegovina, while calling upon all authorities actively to support the return process for minority refugees and internally displaced persons, inter alia, through the eviction of illegal occupants of housing intended for internally displaced persons and refugees, in particular in areas of the Republika Srpska with a majority population of Bosnian Serbs and areas of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina with a majority population of Bosnian Croats;

10. *Welcomes* the "Constituent Peoples" decision of the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which reflects the commitment of Bosnia and Herzegovina to meeting the highest standards of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

11. *Condemns* the harassment of returning minority refugees and internally displaced persons in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including the destruction of their homes, in particular in areas of the Republika Srpska with a majority population of Bosnian Serbs and areas of the Federation with a majority population of Bosnian Croats;

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[515] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. III, sect. E, para. 28.

[516] Ibid., chap. II, sect. A.

[517] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[518] E/CN.4/2000/10.

12. *Also condemns* recurrent instances of religious discrimination and the denial to religious minorities of their right to rebuild religious sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in particular in the territory of the Republika Srpska;

13. *Further condemns* the manipulation of the press by political parties and government officials, including the selective application of slander and tax laws to harass journalists and editors;

14. *Calls upon* all authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in particular those within the Republika Srpska, to cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia;

15. *Calls upon* the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including those of the Republika Srpska and the Federation:

(*a*) To implement the decisions of the High Representative and to fulfil their obligations under the Peace Agreement and the declarations of the Peace Implementation Council;

(*b*) To implement the decisions of the Commission on Human Rights on Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsman and the Human Rights Chamber, and the decisions of the Commission for Real Property Claims of Displaced Persons and Refugees;

(*c*) To establish a fully staffed and funded judiciary which effectively protects the rights of all citizens;

(*d*) To adopt an effective and fair election law, in cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

(*e*) To implement fully all the provisions of the New York Declaration adopted on 15 November 1999;[519]

(*f*) To support the work of the common institutions and implement fully the actions mandated by the Peace Implementation Council at its ministerial meeting held at Brussels on 23 and 24 May 2000;

16. *Welcomes* the political change following the recent elections in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which shows the clear decision of the people to choose democracy, respect for human rights and integration into the international community over dictatorship and isolation, and looks forward to the new authorities ensuring respect for the rule of law and for the promotion and protection of human rights;

17. *Also welcomes* the admission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to membership in the United Nations;

18. *Further welcomes* the commitment of, and encourages efforts by, the new democratic authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to investigate past abuses of human rights, including violations of the human rights of ethnic groups in Kosovo, the repression and harassment of peaceful political activists, illegal and/or hidden detentions, and other violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

19. *Welcomes* the appointment by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of the Special Envoy on persons deprived of liberty in connection with the Kosovo crisis in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and calls upon all authorities to cooperate with the Special Envoy;

20. *Also welcomes* the commitment of the new democratic authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to promoting and protecting free and independent media, and looks forward to welcoming the repeal of any laws that hinder the full and free exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

21. *Calls upon* all authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to respect the rights of all persons belonging to any of its national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

22. *Welcomes* the commitment by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to implement fully and in good faith its obligations under the Peace Agreement and to abide by the terms of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), and calls upon the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other humanitarian organizations to alleviate the suffering of refugees and internally displaced persons, to protect them, and to assist their voluntary return to their homes in safety and with dignity;

23. *Encourages* States to consider providing additional voluntary contributions to support the new democratic authorities so that they may meet the pressing human rights and humanitarian needs in the area;

24. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to comply with their obligation to cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and welcomes the announced reopening of the Office of the International Tribunal in Belgrade and the pledge of the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to cooperate with it;

25. *Underlines* the obligation of the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to abide by the terms of Council resolution 1244 (1999) and the general principles on a political solution to the Kosovo crisis adopted on 6 May 1999 and annexed to that resolution;

26. *Reaffirms* that the human rights and humanitarian situation in Kosovo shall be addressed within the framework of a political solution based and built upon the general principles set out in the annex to Council resolution 1244 (1999);

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[519] S/1999/1179, annex.

27. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo and the Kosovo Force, and calls upon all parties in Kosovo and the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to cooperate fully with the Mission and the Force in the fulfilment of their respective mandates;

28. *Encourages* States to consider providing additional voluntary contributions to support the Mission in meeting the pressing administrative, human rights and humanitarian needs in the area;

29. *Welcomes* the work in Kosovo of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

30. *Recognizes* the strong efforts of the Mission, the United Nations civilian police and the Kosovo Police Service in developing and training the core of a multi-ethnic local police force throughout Kosovo;

31. *Calls upon* all parties in Kosovo to cooperate with the Mission to ensure full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms and democratic norms in Kosovo;

32. *Urges* all parties in Kosovo to support and strengthen a multi-ethnic society in Kosovo that respects the rights of all persons belonging to minorities and that includes them in all provisional and new civil administration institutions in Kosovo, and to support the Mission fully in this regard;

33. *Welcomes* the recent holding of peaceful municipal elections in Kosovo, which is a landmark in the democratic development of Kosovo and in the implementation of Council resolution 1244 (1999), and commends in this regard the support by all parties of the efforts of the Mission;

34. *Commends* the Mission for its efforts to create an independent and impartial judiciary system in Kosovo, and urges all local Serb and Albanian leaders, and the leaders of other minorities in Kosovo, to take all steps necessary to support these efforts;

35. *Calls upon* all local Kosovar officials, ethnic representatives and all individuals to respect the right to freedom of opinion and expression for all points of view, the right to a free, independent media and the right to freedom of religion;

36. *Calls upon* the authorities in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and the representatives of all ethnic groups in Kosovo, to condemn all acts of terrorism and forced evictions from homes or places of work of any resident of Kosovo, whatever the ethnic background of the victim and whoever the perpetrators, to refrain from all acts of violence and to use their influence and leadership to bring all parties to cooperate fully with the Force and the Mission in stopping these incidents and in bringing the perpetrators to justice;

37. *Stresses* the importance of the return of refugees and of all displaced persons, whatever their ethnic background, and expresses its concern about reports of continuing harassment or other impediments in this regard;

38. *Also stresses* the importance for, and the responsibility of, all parties in Kosovo to suppress all harassment of individuals or groups of any background and to create a secure environment that will offer to all those who wish to remain in Kosovo, irrespective of ethnic origin, a genuine possibility of doing so;

39. *Further stresses* the urgent need for all ethnic groups to cooperate with the Mission and the Force to rebuild and strengthen common institutions for all and to desist from creating any sort of parallel institutions;

40. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to release those persons detained and transferred from Kosovo to other parts of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, or to specify the charge under which each individual is detained and to afford them due process of law, and to guarantee their families and non-governmental organizations and international observers unimpeded and regular access to those who remain in detention, and, in this regard, welcomes as a first important step the release of the prominent human rights activist, Flora Brovina, and the release of twenty-three additional detainees;

41. *Calls upon* the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and all local Kosovo ethnic Serb and Albanian leaders, to provide information on the fate and whereabouts of the high number of missing persons from Kosovo, and encourages the International Committee of the Red Cross, in this regard, to continue its clarification efforts, in cooperation with other organizations;

42. *Expresses its concern* about the forced ethnic division of any part of Kosovo as being contrary to Council resolution 1244 (1999) and to the guiding principles of the Rambouillet accords,[520] and stresses the need for all parties in Kosovo to take all necessary measures to prevent or reverse any action that de facto or de jure permits such ethnic cantonization;

43. *Condemns* all trafficking in women by any party in Kosovo, and calls upon the local authorities and the Mission to take all steps necessary to prevent and stop it;

44. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to continue to monitor closely the situation of human rights in Kosovo, and to report his findings to the Commission at its fifty-seventh session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

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[520] S/1999/648, annex.

45. *Decides* to continue its examination of this question at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

## RESOLUTION 55/114

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.3, para. 49),[521] by a recorded vote of 67 to 54, with 46 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia

*Against:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Ghana, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

*Abstentions:* Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Guinea, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Singapore, South Africa, Swaziland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay

### 55/114. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[522] the International Covenants on Human Rights[523] and other human rights instruments,

*Reaffirming* that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

*Mindful* that the Islamic Republic of Iran is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[523] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[523] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[524] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[525]

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject, the most recent of which is resolution 54/177 of 17 December 1999, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/28 of 18 April 2000,[526]

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The interim report of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran;[527]

(*b*) The broad participation in the parliamentary elections held during February and March 2000, which expressed the true commitment of the Iranian people to the democratic process in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

(*c*) The commitment made by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to promote respect for the rule of law, including the elimination of arbitrary arrest and detention, and to reform the judicial and penitentiary system and bring it into line with international human rights standards in this field;

(*d*) The visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran of a technical cooperation needs assessment mission of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and encourages the follow-up to that mission;

2. *Notes*:

(*a*) The provisions of the new code of penal procedure, which provide for the attendance of lawyers for all kinds of lawsuits, and the judiciary reform project, which aims, in particular, at re-establishing a distinction between the offices of the judge and the prosecutor;

(*b*) The legal changes recently put into effect within the Iranian judicial system by which members of religious minorities are no longer obliged to state their religion when applying for a marriage licence;

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[521] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[522] Resolution 217 A (III).

[523] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[524] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[525] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[526] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[527] A/55/363.

(*c*) Developments observed with regard to the status of women in areas such as education, training and health;

(*d*) The bill currently under consideration that aims at raising the age of marriage;

(*e*) The work of the Islamic Human Rights Commission on the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran and, in particular, its efforts to investigate illegal detentions and disappearances;

3. *Expresses its concern*:

(*a*) At the fact that, since 1996, no invitation has yet been extended by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Special Representative to visit the country;

(*b*) At the deterioration of the situation with regard to freedom of opinion and expression, in particular at restrictions on the freedom of the press, judiciary suspension of numerous newspapers, prohibition of publications and the arrest of journalists, political activists and intellectuals on the basis of laws related to national security, which are used as a pretext to deny or restrict freedom of expression, opinion and thought;

(*c*) At the continuing violations of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, in particular executions, in the apparent absence of respect for internationally recognized safeguards, and cases of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(*d*) At the failure to comply fully with international standards in the administration of justice and the absence of guarantees of due process of law and respect for internationally recognized legal safeguards, inter alia, with respect to persons belonging to religious minorities;

(*e*) At the discrimination against persons belonging to religious minorities, in particular the unabated pattern of persecution of the Baha'is, including the continuing detention and the sentencing to death of some of them;

(*f*) At the continuing discrimination, in law and in practice, against women, who still lack full and equal enjoyment of their human rights, as reported by the Special Representative;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

(*a*) To invite the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on religious intolerance to visit the country and to resume its full cooperation with him, in particular so that he may study the evolution of the human rights situation in the country, including through direct contacts with all sectors of society, and to make full use of technical cooperation programmes in the field of human rights;

(*b*) To give effect, in the near future, to its invitation to the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran;

(*c*) To consolidate respect for human rights and the rule of law and to abide by its freely undertaken obligations under the International Covenants on Human Rights[523] and under other international human rights instruments;

(*d*) To make efforts to ensure the full application of due process of law and fair and transparent procedures by the judiciary and, in this context, to ensure the respect for the rights of the defence and the equity of the verdicts in all instances, including for members of religious minority groups;

(*e*) To ensure that capital punishment will not be imposed for crimes other than the most serious and will not be pronounced in disregard of the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[523] and United Nations safeguards and to provide the Special Representative with relevant statistics on this matter;

(*f*) To accelerate the process of the investigation into the suspicious deaths and killings of intellectuals and political activists and to bring the alleged perpetrators to justice;

(*g*) To eliminate all forms of discrimination based on religious grounds or against persons belonging to minorities;

(*h*) To implement fully the conclusions and recommendations of the Special Representative with regard to religious intolerance relating to the Baha'is and other minority religious groups[528] until they are completely emancipated;

(*i*) To take all necessary steps to end the use of torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment, in particular the practice of amputation;

(*j*) To take further measures to promote full and equal enjoyment by women of their human rights;

5. *Decides* to continue the examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the situation of minority groups such as the Baha'is, at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights.

## RESOLUTION 55/115

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.3, para. 49),[529] by a recorded vote of 102 to 3, with 60 abstentions, as follows:

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[528] Ibid., para. 110.

[529] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

*In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu

*Against:* Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Sudan

*Abstentions:* Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia. Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam

## 55/115. Human rights situation in Iraq

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[530] the International Covenants on Human Rights[531] and other human rights instruments,

*Reaffirming* that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

*Mindful* that Iraq is a party to the International Covenants on Human Rights, other international human rights instruments and the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,[532]

*Recalling* its previous resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights on the subject, and taking note of the most recent, Commission resolution 2000/17 of 18 April 2000,[533]

*Recalling also* Security Council resolution 686 (1991) of 2 March 1991, in which the Council called upon Iraq to release all Kuwaitis and nationals of other States who might still be held in detention, Council resolution 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991, Council resolution 688 (1991) of 5 April 1991, in which the Council demanded an end to the repression of the Iraqi civilian population and insisted that Iraq cooperate with humanitarian organizations and that the human rights of all Iraqi citizens be respected, Council resolutions 986 (1995) of 14 April 1995, 1111 (1997) of 4 June 1997, 1129 (1997) of 12 September 1997, 1143 (1997) of 4 December 1997, 1153 (1998) of 20 February 1998, 1175 (1998) of 19 June 1998, 1210 (1998) of 24 November 1998, 1242 (1999) of 21 May 1999, 1266 (1999) of 4 October 1999, 1281 (1999) of 10 December 1999 and 1302 (2000) of 8 June 2000, in which the Council authorized States to permit imports of Iraqi oil in order to allow Iraq to purchase humanitarian supplies, and Council resolution 1284 (1999) of 17 December 1999, in which the Council, by means of a comprehensive approach to the situation in Iraq, inter alia, raised the ceiling for the allowable import of Iraqi oil in order to increase the amount of revenue available for the purchase of humanitarian supplies, laid down new provisions and procedures designed to improve the implementation of the humanitarian programme and to further achievements in meeting the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi population, and reiterated the obligation of Iraq to facilitate the repatriation of all Kuwaiti and third-country nationals referred to in paragraph 30 of Council resolution 687 (1991),

*Taking note* of the concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee,[534] the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination,[535] the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[536] and the Committee on the Rights of the Child[537] on the recent reports submitted to them by Iraq, in which these treaty-monitoring bodies point to a wide range of human rights problems and hold the view that the Government of Iraq remains bound by its treaty obligations, while pointing to the adverse effect of sanctions on the daily life of the population, in particular children,

*Recalling* the reports of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of Security Council resolutions 986 (1995),[538] 1111 (1997),[539] 1143 (1997),[540] 1175 (1998),[541] 1210 (1998)[542] and 1242 (1999),[543] and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1302 (2000),[544]

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[530] Resolution 217 A (III).

[531] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[532] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[533] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap II, sect. A.

[534] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/53/40), vol. I, paras. 90–111.

[535] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/54/18), paras. 337–361.

[536] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 2* (E/1998/22), paras. 245–283.

[537] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/55/41), paras. 304–333.

[538] S/1996/1015.

[539] S/1997/935.

[540] S/1998/90, S/1998/194 and Corr.1 and S/1998/477.

[541] S/1998/823 and S/1998/1100.

[542] S/1999/187 and S/1999/573 and Corr.2.

[543] S/1999/896 and Corr.1 and S/1999/1162 and Corr.1.

*Reaffirming* that it is the responsibility of the Government of Iraq to ensure the well-being of its entire population and the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, concerned about the dire humanitarian situation in Iraq, which particularly affects certain vulnerable groups, including children, as stated in the reports of several United Nations human rights treaty bodies, and appealing to all concerned to fulfil their mutual obligations in the management of the humanitarian programme established by the Security Council in its resolution 986 (1995),

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Iraq[545] and the observations, conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

2. *Notes with dismay* that there has been no improvement in the situation of human rights in the country;

3. *Strongly condemns*:

(*a*) The systematic, widespread and extremely grave violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law by the Government of Iraq, resulting in an all-pervasive repression and oppression sustained by broad-based discrimination and widespread terror;

(*b*) The suppression of freedom of thought, expression, information, association, assembly and movement through fear of arrest, imprisonment, execution, expulsion, house demolition and other sanctions;

(*c*) The repression faced by any kind of opposition, in particular the harassment and intimidation of and threats against Iraqi opponents living abroad and members of their families;

(*d*) The widespread use of the death penalty in disregard of the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[531] and the United Nations safeguards;

(*e*) Summary and arbitrary executions, including political killings and the continuing so-called clean-out of prisons, as well as enforced or involuntary disappearances, routinely practised arbitrary arrests and detention and consistent and routine failure to respect due process and the rule of law;

(*f*) Widespread, systematic torture and the maintaining of decrees prescribing cruel and inhuman punishment as a penalty for offences;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of Iraq:

(*a*) To abide by its freely undertaken obligations under international human rights treaties and international humanitarian law and to respect and ensure the rights of all individuals, irrespective of their origin, ethnicity, gender or religion, within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction;

(*b*) To bring the actions of its military and security forces into conformity with the standards of international law, in particular those of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

(*c*) To cooperate with United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular by inviting the Special Rapporteur to visit the country and allowing the stationing of human rights monitors throughout Iraq pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

(*d*) To establish the independence of the judiciary and abrogate all laws granting impunity to specified forces or persons killing or injuring individuals for any purpose beyond the administration of justice under the rule of law as prescribed by international standards;

(*e*) To abrogate all decrees that prescribe cruel and inhuman punishment or treatment, including mutilation, and to ensure that torture and cruel punishment and treatment no longer occur;

(*f*) To abrogate all laws and procedures, including Revolution Command Council Decree No. 840 of 4 November 1986, that penalize free expression, and to ensure that the genuine will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of the State;

(*g*) To ensure free exercise of political opposition and to prevent intimidation and repression of political opponents and their families;

(*h*) To respect the rights of all ethnic and religious groups and to cease immediately its repressive practices aimed at the Iraqi Kurds, Assyrians and Turkmen, in particular their deportation from the regions of Kirkuk and Khanaqin, and at the population of the southern marsh areas, where drainage projects have provoked environmental destruction and a deterioration of the situation of the civilian population, as well as to ensure the physical integrity of all citizens, including the Shi'a population, and to guarantee their freedoms;

(*i*) To cooperate with the Tripartite Commission and its Technical Subcommittee to establish the whereabouts and resolve the fate of the remaining several hundred missing persons, including prisoners of war, Kuwaiti nationals and third-country nationals, victims of the illegal Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, to cooperate with the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances of the Commission on Human Rights for that purpose, to cooperate with the high-level coordinator of the Secretary-General for Kuwaitis and third-country nationals and Kuwaiti property, to pay compensation to the families of those who died or disappeared in the custody of the Iraqi authorities, through the mechanism established by the Security Council in resolution 692 (1991) of 20 May 1991, to release immediately all Kuwaitis and nationals of other States who may still be held in detention and inform families about the whereabouts of arrested persons, to provide information about death sentences imposed on prisoners of war and civilian detainees, and to issue death certificates for deceased prisoners of war and civilian detainees;

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[544] S/2000/857.

[545] See A/55/294.

(*j*) To cooperate further with international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations in providing humanitarian assistance and monitoring in the northern and southern areas of the country;

(*k*) To continue to cooperate in the implementation of Security Council resolutions 986 (1995), 1111 (1997), 1143 (1997), 1153 (1998), 1210 (1998), 1242 (1999), 1266 (1999), 1281 (1999) and 1302 (2000), and to cooperate, together with all concerned, in the implementation of the sections on humanitarian questions of Council resolution 1284 (1999), to ensure fully the timely and equitable distribution, without discrimination, to the Iraqi population, including the population in remote areas, of all humanitarian supplies purchased under the oil-for-humanitarian-goods programme, to address effectively the needs of vulnerable groups, including children, pregnant women, the disabled, the elderly and the mentally ill, among others, to facilitate the work of United Nations humanitarian personnel in Iraq by ensuring the free and unobstructed movement of observers throughout the country, as well as their free access, without any discrimination, to all the population, and to ensure that involuntarily displaced persons receive humanitarian assistance without the need to demonstrate that they have resided for six months at their places of temporary residence;

(*l*) To cooperate in the identification of minefields existing throughout Iraq with a view to facilitating their marking and eventual clearing;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all necessary assistance in carrying out his mandate, and decides to continue the examination of the situation of human rights in Iraq at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights.

## RESOLUTION 55/116

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.3, para. 49),[546] by a recorded vote of 85 to 32, with 49 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe

*Against:* Algeria, Bahrain, Chad, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam

*Abstentions:* Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Palau, Philippines, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America

### 55/116. Situation of human rights in the Sudan

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[547] the International Covenants on Human Rights[548] and other applicable human rights instruments and to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

*Mindful* that the Sudan is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[548] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[548] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[549] the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights[550] and the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[551]

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Sudan, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/27 of 18 April 2000,[552]

*Aware* of the urgent need for the Government of the Sudan to implement effective additional measures in the field of human rights and humanitarian relief in order to protect the civilian population from the effects of armed conflicts,

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[546] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[547] Resolution 217 A (III).

[548] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[549] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[550] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[551] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[552] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

*Expressing its firm belief* that progress towards a peaceful settlement of the conflict in southern Sudan within the peace initiative of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development will contribute greatly to the creation of a better environment to encourage respect for human rights in the Sudan,

*Condemning* the murder of four Sudanese relief workers in April 1999 while in the custody of the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement,

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Sudan;[553]

(*b*) The visit by the Special Rapporteur to the Sudan in February and March 2000 at the invitation of the Government of the Sudan and the very good cooperation extended by the Government in this regard, as well as the stated willingness of the Government to continue to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur;

(*c*) The signing of the agreement of 29 March 2000 between the Government of the Sudan and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

(*d*) The activities of the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children as a constructive response on the part of the Government of the Sudan, the cooperation extended to the Committee by the local communities and the support of the international community and non-governmental organizations;

(*e*) The expressed commitment of the Government of the Sudan to respect and promote human rights and the rule of law and its expressed commitment to a process of democratization with a view to establishing a representative and accountable government, reflecting the aspirations of the people of the Sudan;

(*f*) Recent additional efforts by the Government of the Sudan to improve freedom of expression, association, the press and assembly, in particular the adoption of the Political Organization Act of 2000, and the announcement relating to the creation of a high commission to review the law on public order;

(*g*) The stipulation of basic human rights and freedoms in the Constitution of the Sudan and the establishment of the Constitutional Court, which has been in operation since April 1999;

(*h*) The efforts to implement the right to education;

(*i*) The renewed invitation extended by the Government of the Sudan to the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on religious intolerance and the efforts of the Government of the Sudan to promulgate a new law on religious liberties and activities after an open and transparent process of consultation with high representatives of all religions;

(*j*) Leniency measures taken by the Government of the Sudan, which led to the release of a large number of imprisoned women;

(*k*) The release of political prisoners and the measures taken to allow the return of exiled opposition members;

(*l*) The recent shelter given by the Sudan to new groups of refugees;

(*m*) The commitments undertaken by the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement during the visit to Rumbek, southern Sudan, of the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, not to recruit into its armed forces children under the age of eighteen and to demobilize all child soldiers still remaining in the military and hand them over to the competent civil authorities for reintegration;

(*n*) The convening of the fourth meeting of the Technical Committee on Humanitarian Assistance at Geneva on 2 and 3 November 2000, attended by delegations of the Government of the Sudan, the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement and the United Nations, and its final communiqué;

(*o*) The repeated statements by the Government of the Sudan in favour of a global, lasting and effectively monitored ceasefire in southern Sudan;

2. *Expresses its deep concern*:

(*a*) At the impact of the current armed conflict, worsened by the breakdown of the ceasefire in June 2000 and by the upsurge of armed confrontations, on the situation of human rights and its adverse effects on the civilian population, in particular women and children, and the continuing serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by all parties, in particular:

(i) The occurrence of cases of summary or arbitrary execution resulting from conflict between members of the armed forces and their allies and armed insurgent groups within the country, including the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement;

(ii) The occurrence, within the framework of the conflict in southern Sudan, of cases of enforced or involuntary disappearance, the use of children as soldiers and combatants, forced conscription, forced displacement of populations, arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment of civilians;

(iii) The abduction of women and children to be subjected to forced labour or similar conditions;

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[553] See A/55/374.

(iv) The indiscriminate aerial bombardments, which seriously and recurrently affect civilian populations and installations, in particular the bombings of schools and hospitals, as well as the use of civilian premises for military purposes;

(v) The use of weapons, including indiscriminate artillery shelling and landmines, against the civilian population;

(vi) The conditions imposed by the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement on humanitarian organizations working in southern Sudan, which have seriously affected their safety and led to the withdrawal of many of them, with potentially grave consequences for the already endangered situation of thousands of people living in areas under its control;

(vii) The difficulties encountered by United Nations and humanitarian staff in carrying out their mandate because of harassment, indiscriminate aerial bombings and the reopening of hostilities;

(*b*) At continuing violations of human rights in areas under the control of the Government of the Sudan, in particular:

(i) Precarious conditions of detention, frequent use of torture, arbitrary detentions, interrogations, and violations of human rights by the security organs;

(ii) Acts of intimidation and harassment against the civilian population;

(iii) Restrictions on freedom of religion, as well as the obstacles remaining to the freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly;

(iv) Information that all means of avoiding the execution of severe, inhuman punishments have not been fully utilized;

3. *Urges* all parties to the continuing conflict in the Sudan:

(*a*) To work immediately to put in place a global, lasting and effectively monitored ceasefire as a first necessary step to a negotiated settlement to the conflict;

(*b*) To respect and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, to respect fully international humanitarian law, thereby facilitating the voluntary return, repatriation and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes, and to ensure that those responsible for violations of human rights and international humanitarian law are brought to justice;

(*c*) To stop immediately the use of weapons, including indiscriminate artillery shelling and landmines, in particular by the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement, against the civilian population, which runs counter to principles of international humanitarian law;

(*d*) To stop attacks on sites that usually have a significant presence of children as well as during the "days of tranquillity" which had been agreed upon for the purpose of ensuring peaceful polio vaccination campaigns;

(*e*) To stop immediately the use of civilian premises for military purposes, in particular by the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement, particularly sites that usually have a significant presence of children;

(*f*) To grant full, safe and unhindered access to international agencies and humanitarian organizations so as to facilitate by all means possible the delivery of humanitarian assistance, in conformity with international humanitarian law, to all civilians in need of protection and assistance, in particular in Bahr el-Ghazal, the Nuba Mountains, the Western Upper Nile and areas in need throughout the country, and to continue to cooperate in this regard with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and Operation Lifeline Sudan in the delivery of such assistance, and urges the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to resume negotiations as soon as possible with a view to the withdrawal of the conditions imposed on the work of international agencies and humanitarian organizations;

(*g*) In particular the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement, not to misappropriate humanitarian assistance;

(*h*) To continue to cooperate with the peace efforts of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, and, in this context, urges the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to commit itself to a permanent ceasefire;

(*i*) Not to use or recruit children under the age of eighteen as soldiers, and urges the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement not to use or recruit children under the age of eighteen as soldiers and to refrain from the practice of forced conscription;

(*j*) To fulfil their commitments concerning the protection of children affected by war, including their commitments to cease the use of anti-personnel landmines, the abduction and exploitation of children and the recruitment of children by the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement as soldiers, to advance the demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers, and to ensure access to displaced and unaccompanied minors;

(*k*) To allow an independent investigation of the case of the four Sudanese nationals who were abducted on 18 February 1999 while travelling with a team from the International Committee of the Red Cross on a humanitarian mission and subsequently killed while in the custody of the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement, and urges the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to return the bodies to their families;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Sudan:

(*a*) To comply fully with its obligations under the international human rights instruments to which the Sudan is a party and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as to respect its obligations under international humanitarian law;

(*b*) To strengthen its efforts to ensure the rule of law by bringing legislation into line with the Constitution and by the effective practice of law enforcement;

(*c*) To continue its efforts to bring its national legislation into conformity with the applicable international human rights instruments to which the Sudan is a party and to ensure that all individuals in its territory enjoy fully the rights recognized in those instruments;

(*d*) To take all effective measures to prevent and end all acts of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, to ensure that all accused persons are held in ordinary custody and receive prompt, just and fair trials under internationally recognized standards, to investigate all reported human rights violations, including acts of torture, brought to its attention and to prosecute those responsible for the violations;

(*e*) To seriously consider ratifying, as a matter of priority, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;[554]

(*f*) To make sure that all means of avoiding the execution of severe, inhuman punishments are fully utilized;

(*g*) To reinforce the action taken to prevent and stop abductions of women and children within the framework of the conflict in southern Sudan, to bring to trial any persons suspected of supporting or participating in such activities and not cooperating with the efforts of the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children in addressing and preventing those activities, to facilitate the safe return of affected children to their families as a matter of priority and to take further measures, in particular through the Committee, with which all concerned have the responsibility and the duty to cooperate;

(*h*) To stop definitively the indiscriminate aerial bombardment of civilian and humanitarian targets, which runs counter to fundamental principles of human rights and humanitarian law;

(*i*) To make further efforts to address effectively the growing problem of internally displaced persons, whose number has increased, including ensuring their right to effective protection and assistance;

(*j*) To continue to implement its commitment to the democratization process and the rule of law and to create, in this context, conditions that would allow for a democratization process that is genuine and wholly reflects the aspirations of the people of the country and ensures their full participation;

(*k*) To continue efforts to implement the commitment made to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict not to recruit children under the age of eighteen as soldiers;

(*l*) To implement the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners[555] and to raise the age of criminal responsibility for children in order to take into account the observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child;

5. *Encourages* the Government of the Sudan to continue to pursue its dialogue with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the basis of the agreement of 29 March 2000 between the Government and the High Commissioner, with a view to establishing a permanent representation of the High Commissioner;

6. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to take into consideration requests for assistance by the Government of the Sudan, inter alia, with a view to establishing a permanent representation of the High Commissioner as a matter of priority;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to expand its support for activities, in particular those of the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children, aimed at improving respect for human rights and humanitarian law during the conflict;

8. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in the Sudan at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", in the light of further elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights.

## RESOLUTION 55/117

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.3, para. 49),[556] by a recorded vote of 102 to 2, with 63 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan,

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[554] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[555] See *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, volume I (First Part), (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XIV.1 (Vol. I, Part 1)).

[556] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yugoslavia

*Against:* Rwanda, Uganda

*Abstentions:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Zimbabwe

## 55/117. Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[557] the International Covenants on Human Rights[558] and other applicable human rights instruments,

*Mindful* that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[558] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[558] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[559] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[560] the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,[561] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[562] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[563] as well as the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[564]

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on this subject, including the most recent, resolution 54/179 of 17 December 1999, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/15 of 18 April 2000[565] and Security Council resolution 1304 (2000) of 16 June 2000, and mindful of previous resolutions and presidential statements of the Security Council on the subject,

*Recalling* the Ceasefire Agreement signed at Lusaka[566] and the Kampala disengagement plan,[567] the obligations of all signatories to those agreements and the obligations deriving from Security Council resolution 1304 (2000),

*Taking note* of the outcome of the Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State or Government of the Southern African Development Community, held at Maputo on 16 January 2000[568] and of the holding of the summit meeting of the heads of State of Central Africa at Kinshasa on 27 October 2000,[569]

*Concerned* at all violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo by parties to the conflict, as mentioned in the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,[570] including acts of and incitement to ethnic hatred and violence,

*Recognizing* that the promotion and the protection of human rights for all are essential for achieving stability and security in the region and will contribute to the creation of the environment necessary for cooperation among States in the region,

*Taking into account* the regional dimension of the human rights issues in the Great Lakes region, while underlining the primary responsibility of States for the promotion and protection of human rights, and stressing the importance of technical cooperation with a view to strengthening regional cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recalling* the decision of the Commission on Human Rights to request the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and a member of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to carry out a joint mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and encouraging the mission to begin its work as soon as possible, with the cooperation of the Government and all other parties concerned,

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[557] Resolution 217 A (III).

[558] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[559] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[560] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[561] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[562] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[563] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[564] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[565] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[566] S/1999/815, annex.

[567] See S/2000/330 and Corr.1, paras. 21–28.

[568] S/2000/36, annex.

[569] S/2000/1050, annex.

[570] See A/55/403.

*Encouraging* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to fulfil its earlier commitments, including to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to restore and reform the judicial system, in accordance with the relevant international conventions, and noting in this regard the declared intention of the Government progressively to abolish the death penalty and to put an end to the trying of civilians by the Military Court,

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;[570]

(*b*) The visit made to the country by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo at the invitation of the Government and the cooperation of the Government and of all Congolese parties to the Ceasefire Agreement signed at Lusaka[566] in this regard;

(*c*) The visit made to the country by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights from 1 to 3 October 2000;

(*d*) The activities of the human rights field office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and encourages the Government to continue to work in close cooperation with the office;

(*e*) The efforts of the Ministry of Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to improve the human rights situation in the country and, in particular, the adoption in December 1999, in concert with non-governmental organizations, of the national action plan for the promotion and protection of human rights;

(*f*) The general amnesty ordered by President Kabila on 19 February 2000, as a timely and significant step towards reconciliation and towards preparation for the inter-Congolese dialogue called for in the Ceasefire Agreement, but deplores the fact that many other political prisoners continue to be detained and the arrests made since that date;

(*g*) The commitment by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to cooperate with the United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations in ensuring the demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers and the holding at Kinshasa, on 10 December 1999, in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund, of the Forum on the Demobilization of Child Soldiers and the Protection of Human Rights, and measures of demobilization of children taken by the Government and by the Congolese Rally for Democracy, and encourages other parties to the conflict to do the same;

(*h*) The repatriation carried out under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in conformity with international humanitarian law, of persons at risk because of their ethnic origin, but regrets, however, that the Government was apparently unable to provide adequate protection in the first place;

(*i*) The release of prisoners of war, and calls for the acceleration of exchanges of prisoners;

(*j*) The decision of the Security Council in its resolution 1291 (2000) of 24 February 2000 to authorize the expansion of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*k*) The work of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the peace process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*l*) The appointment by the Secretary-General of the Special Representative for the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

2. *Expresses its concern* at:

(*a*) The adverse impact of the conflict on the situation of human rights and its severe consequences for the security and well-being of the civilian population throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*b*) The continuing violations of the Ceasefire Agreement and the continuing use of hate speech;

(*c*) The preoccupying situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the eastern part of the country, and the continuing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, often with impunity, and, with that in view, condemns:

(i) The massacres of civilians perpetrated in the course of the conflict, which constitute a disproportionate response to attacks, in particular those occurring recently on the Lisenda-8 road and at Katogata, Kamanyola, Lurbarika, Luberezi, Ngenge, Kalehe, Kilambo, Cidaho, Uvira, Shabunda and Lusenda-Lubumba;

(ii) The fighting in Kisangani between Ugandan and Rwandan forces, most recently in May and June 2000, which resulted in many civilian victims;

(iii) The bombings of the hospital at Libenge and at Gemena and elsewhere, which affected civilian populations;

(iv) The conflicts between the Hema and Lendu ethnic groups in the eastern province, where thousands of Congolese have already been killed;

(v) The occurrence of cases of summary and arbitrary execution, disappearance, torture, beating, harassment, arbitrary arrest and detention without trial, including of journalists, opposition politicians and human rights defenders, reports of sexual violence against women and children, and the continuing recruitment and use of child soldiers, as well as, in the eastern part of the country in particular, reprisals against people who have cooperated with the United Nations mechanisms;

(vi) The trying of civilians and the imposition of the death penalty by the Military Court;

(*d*) The excessive accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons and the illicit distribution, circulation and trafficking of arms in the region and their negative impact on human rights;

(*e*) The breaches of fundamental freedoms, such as freedom of expression, opinion, association and assembly, in the whole territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the eastern part of the country;

(*f*) The acts of intimidation against representatives of the Churches and civil society, throughout the Congolese territory, as well as the killings of those persons in the eastern part of the country;

(*g*) The severe insecurity, which minimizes the ability of humanitarian organizations to secure access to affected populations;

(*h*) Reports of the illegal exploitation of natural resources and other forms of wealth of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

3. *Urges* all parties to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

(*a*) To implement fully the provisions of the Ceasefire Agreement and to facilitate the re-establishment of the authority of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo throughout the territory, as agreed in the inter-Congolese political negotiations provided for in the Ceasefire Agreement, and stresses, in the context of a lasting peaceful settlement, the need for the engagement of the Congolese in an all-inclusive process of political dialogue, with a view to achieving national reconciliation and the holding of democratic, free, transparent and fair elections;

(*b*) To cease all military activity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which breaches the ceasefire provided for in the Ceasefire Agreement and the Kampala disengagement plan;[567]

(*c*) To protect human rights and to respect international humanitarian law, in particular, as applicable to them, the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war[561] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[571] the Hague Convention respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land of 18 October 1907,[572] the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide[573] and other relevant provisions of international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and in particular to respect the rights of women and children and to ensure the safety of all civilians, including refugees and internally displaced persons within the territory of that country, regardless of their origin;

(*d*) To cease all forms of repression against people exercising their fundamental freedoms;

(*e*) To establish the conditions necessary for the safe and speedy deployment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*f*) To ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of United Nations and associated personnel and humanitarian personnel within the Democratic Republic of the Congo and, in this regard, to ensure safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*g*) To put an immediate end to the use of child soldiers, which is in contravention of international human rights standards, and to demobilize them;

(*h*) To define and implement all necessary measures to create conditions conducive to the voluntary return, in safety and with dignity, of all refugees and displaced persons and to ensure their protection and fair and lawful treatment;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

(*a*) To comply fully with its obligations under international human rights law and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms throughout its entire territory;

(*b*) To fulfil its responsibility to ensure the full protection of the human rights of the population in its territory, as well as to take a leading part in efforts to prevent conditions that might lead to further flows of internally displaced persons and refugees within the Democratic Republic of the Congo and across its border;

(*c*) To fulfil its commitment to reform and restore the judicial system, and, in particular, to reform military justice, and to stop using it to try civilians, in conformity with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[558]

(*d*) To ensure full respect for freedom of opinion and expression, including freedom of the press in relation to all types of mass media, as well as freedom of association and assembly;

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[571] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[572] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[573] Resolution 260 A (III).

(*e*) To remove the restrictions that still affect the work of non-governmental organizations and to promote human rights awareness, including by strengthening cooperation with civil society, including all human rights organizations;

(*f*) To implement fully its commitment to the democratization process, in particular the national dialogue, as stipulated in the Ceasefire Agreement, and to create, in this context, conditions that would allow for a democratization process that is genuine and all-inclusive and that fully reflects the aspirations of all people in the country, including by lifting restrictions on political parties and their activities and ensuring political pluralism, in order to lead the way for the holding of democratic, free and fair elections;

(*g*) To put an end to impunity and to fulfil its responsibility to ensure that those responsible for human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law are brought to justice;

(*h*) To cooperate fully with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 in ensuring that all those responsible for the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and other grave violations of human rights are brought to justice in accordance with international principles of due process;

(*i*) To work closely and strengthen further its cooperation with the human rights field office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*j*) To implement fully its commitment to cooperate with United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations in ensuring the demobilization, rehabilitation and reintegration of child soldiers;

5. *Decides* to continue to examine the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and requests the Special Rapporteur to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/118

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.3, para. 49)[574]

### 55/118. Situation of human rights in Haiti

*The General Assembly*,

*Guided* by the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[575] and the International Covenants on Human Rights[576] and other international human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[577]

*Recalling* its resolution 54/187 of 17 December 1999, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/78 of 26 April 2000[578] and Economic and Social Council decision 2000/277 of 28 July 2000,

*Taking note* of the report of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Haiti, Adama Dieng,[579]

*Bearing in mind* the report of the Secretary-General on the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti,[580] and considering the statement by the President of the Security Council of 15 March 2000,[581]

*Taking note* of the report on the visit to Haiti of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences,[582] and encouraging the Government of Haiti to follow up actively the recommendations contained therein,

*Recognizing* the interdependent relations and mutual reinforcement between democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the commitment of the international community to supporting, strengthening and promoting this principle,

*Noting* the establishment of the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti with the mandate to support the democratization process and assist the Haitian authorities with the development of democratic institutions; to assist the Haitian authorities in the reform and the strengthening of the Haitian system of justice, including its penal institutions, and to promote the Office of the Ombudsman; to support the efforts of the Government of Haiti to professionalize the Haitian National Police through a special training and technical assistance programme and to help the Government to coordinate bilateral and multilateral aid in this area; to support the efforts of the Government of Haiti aimed at the full observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms; and to provide technical assistance for the organization of democratic elections and to collaborate with the Government of Haiti in the coordination of bilateral and multilateral assistance,

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[574] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

[575] Resolution 217 A (III).

[576] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[577] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[578] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[579] See A/55/335.

[580] A/55/154.

[581] S/PRST/2000/8; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000*.

[582] E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.3.

*Commending* the work of the Organization of American States in Haiti, in particular the efforts to promote a dialogue among Haitian political actors and civil society groups following the legislative elections held on 21 May 2000,

*Expressing concern* at the fact that no solution has yet been found with regard to the deficiencies of the elections of 21 May 2000, most notably those identified by national and international observers and by the electoral observation mission of the Organization of American States,

*Underlining* the importance of the legitimate election of parliament for the institution of democracy, for the rule of law and for the progress of civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights in favour of all Haitians,

*Noting with satisfaction* the efforts made by the Haitian authorities in the fight against impunity, which resulted in the convictions of the police officers responsible for the Carrefour-Feuilles massacre and the opening of the trial relating to the Raboteau massacre,

*Deploring* the increasing difficulties met by the press in expressing itself freely since the serious incidents of April 2000,

*Recalling* the statements made by the Haitian authorities to the effect that the Government remains committed to upholding human rights, and encouraging further actions to improve the promotion, defence and guarantee of those rights,

*Underlining* the need for the Provisional Electoral Council to be fully representative of the Haitian political scene, including the opposition, impartial, neutral and effective in the preparations for, and during, the forthcoming presidential and senatorial elections,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General, his Representative for Haiti and the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Haiti for their continuing efforts in favour of the consolidation of democratic institutions in Haiti and respect for human rights in that country;

2. *Commends* the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti for its training and supervising of the Haitian National Police, and the International Civilian Mission in Haiti for monitoring the situation of human rights and for its activities in support of democratic institutions, the mandates of which Missions concluded on 15 March 2000, opening the way for the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti, with its mandate to consolidate and build on the results obtained in this regard;

3. *Stresses* the need for the Haitian National Police to continue to undertake more effective efforts to improve its performance through, inter alia, technical assistance, training and education, in order to function efficiently, within a framework of respect for human rights, to curb the alarming increase in insecurity in the country;

4. *Renews its invitation* to the Government of Haiti to ratify, as soon as possible, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[576] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[583] and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[584]

5. *Requests* all interested Governments to make available to the Government of Haiti information and documentation to enable it to prosecute the perpetrators of human rights violations, in order to reinforce the efforts already made by the Haitian authorities to fight against impunity and to facilitate the reconciliation process;

6. *Calls upon* the Government of Haiti to continue structural reforms in the police and the judicial system and the improvement of the prison sector, to investigate properly politically motivated crimes and to prosecute the perpetrators of such crimes in accordance with Haitian law, to take vigorous action to eliminate any continuing human rights violations, including illegal arrests and detentions and the detention by authorities of individuals in violation of court orders for their release, and to ensure due process, including reasonable timeframes;

7. *Reaffirms* the importance, for combating impunity and for the realization of a genuine and effective process of transition and national reconciliation, of investigations undertaken by the National Commission for Truth and Justice, and encourages the Government of Haiti to continue legal proceedings against perpetrators of human rights violations identified by the National Commission and to create effective facilities for providing support to the victims, in particular women, children and members of their families;

8. *Welcomes* the decision of the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States to the effect that that Organization, acting in conjunction with the Caribbean Community and other political actors and civil society groups, should give support to the Government of Haiti and all other actors involved in order to identify, as soon as possible, any options and make recommendations for resolving the difficulties resulting from the conflicting interpretations of the electoral law, and expresses the hope that that will result in concrete corrective actions by the Government of Haiti and

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[583] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[584] See resolutions 2200 A (XXI), annex, and 44/128, annex.

other authorities and continue to strengthen the democratic process in that country;

9. *Notes with interest* the forthcoming presidential elections and elections for the renewal of one third of the Senate, and urges the Government of Haiti and other authorities to ensure the necessary guarantees for holding those elections in a transparent, secure and credible environment in agreement with Haiti's political actors and civil society groups, inter alia, by restoring the credibility of the Provisional Electoral Council, and through a true dialogue, with the support of the international community, including the Organization of American States;

10. *Recalls with appreciation* the initiative of the Government of Haiti, in collaboration with the international community and women's groups, to adopt measures to promote the human rights of women and to fight against the violence of which they are victims, through the training of judicial staff and the dissemination of information on the rights of women at all levels of the education system, and encourages Haiti to continue these efforts;

11. *Encourages* the Government of Haiti further to promote the rights of children, in particular their right to education;

12. *Invites* the international community, including the Bretton Woods institutions, to consider, when conditions permit, continuing its involvement in the reconstruction and development of Haiti;

13. *Encourages* the Government of Haiti to contribute to the strengthening of the Office for the Protection of Citizens, inter alia, through regional representation as appropriate, incorporating a gender perspective, and through the establishment of a programme of technical cooperation, in close collaboration with, and with the assistance of, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti;

14. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Haiti at its fifty-sixth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/119

Adopted at the 81st plenary meeting, on 4 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/602/Add.3, para. 49)[585]

### 55/119. Question of human rights in Afghanistan

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[586] the International Covenants on Human Rights[587] and accepted humanitarian rules, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[588] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[589]

*Reaffirming* that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have freely undertaken under the various international instruments,

*Recalling* that Afghanistan is a party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[590] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[587] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[587] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[591] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[592] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War[593] and that it has signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[594]

*Recalling also* all its relevant resolutions, as well as the resolutions and presidential statements of the Security Council, the decisions of the Economic and Social Council, the resolutions and decisions of the Commission on Human Rights and the resolutions of the Commission on the Status of Women,

*Recalling further* that the United Nations continues to play its central and impartial role in international efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict, and encouraging all efforts at the national, regional and international levels aimed at finding a solution to the continuing conflict through a broad-based dialogue involving all concerned actors,

*Expressing deep concern* at the lack of reconstruction in Afghanistan,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan[595] and of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to fulfil his mandate;

2. *Strongly condemns* the mass killings and systematic human rights violations perpetrated against civilians and prisoners of war, including in the areas of Mazar-e Sharif and Bamian, and notes with alarm the resumption of the wider

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[585] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairperson of the Committee.

[586] Resolution 217 A (III).

[587] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[588] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[589] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[590] Resolution 260 A (III).

[591] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[592] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[593] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[594] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[595] See A/55/346.

conflict by the Taliban during the past summer, especially in the Taloqan area, resulting in the massive, forced displacement of the civilian population, in particular of women and children;

3. *Condemns* the widespread violations and abuses of human rights and international humanitarian law, including the right to life, liberty and security of person, freedom from torture and from other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, freedom of opinion, expression, religion, association and movement, the forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict and, in particular, the grave human rights violations committed against women and girls;

4. *Reiterates its condemnation* of the killings of Iranian diplomats and the correspondent of the Islamic Republic News Agency by the Taliban, which constituted flagrant violations of established international law, as well as the attacks on and killings of United Nations personnel in Taliban-held territories of Afghanistan, and calls upon the Taliban to fulfil their stated commitment to cooperate in urgent investigations of these heinous crimes with a view to bringing to justice those responsible;

5. *Notes with deep concern*:

(*a*) The persisting pattern of human rights violations in Afghanistan;

(*b*) The continuing and substantiated reports of human rights violations against women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban;

(*c*) The intensification of armed hostilities in Afghanistan and the complex nature of the conflict, including its ethnic, religious and political aspects, which have resulted in extensive human suffering and forced displacement, inter alia, on the grounds of ethnicity;

(*d*) The continued displacement of millions of Afghan refugees to the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan and other countries;

(*e*) The deliberate destruction of life-sustaining activities;

(*f*) The substantial restrictions introduced by the Taliban authorities on the operations of the United Nations and the specialized agencies that provide assistance in Afghanistan, and notes the negative impact that those restrictions have on providing women, children, in particular girls, and other most vulnerable groups with assistance;

6. *Also notes with deep concern* the sharp deterioration of the humanitarian situation in many areas of Afghanistan, including the Shamali Plains, the Panjshir Valley and the north-east, and calls for the full implementation of the agreement on the security of United Nations personnel in Afghanistan;

7. *Urges* all States to respect the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, to refrain from interfering in its internal affairs and to end immediately the supply of arms, ammunition, military equipment, including fuel for military purposes where identifiable, training or any other military support, including the provision of foreign military personnel, to all parties to the conflict;

8. *Stresses* the need for national reconciliation and for the establishment of the rule of law, good governance and democracy in Afghanistan and, concurrently, the need for extensive rehabilitation and reconstruction;

9. *Urges* all the Afghan parties:

(*a*) To respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with international human rights instruments;

(*b*) To cease hostilities immediately, to work and cooperate fully with the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan with a view to achieving a ceasefire and to implement the Tashkent Declaration on Fundamental Principles for a Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict in Afghanistan of 19 July 1999,[596] thus laying the foundation for a comprehensive political solution leading to the voluntary return of displaced persons to their homes in safety and with dignity and to the establishment of a broad-based, multi-ethnic, fully representative Government through the full exercise of the Afghan people of the right to self-determination;

(*c*) To reaffirm publicly their commitment to international human rights and principles and to recognize, protect and promote all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(*d*) To respect fully international humanitarian law, to protect civilians, to halt the use of weapons against the civilian population, to refrain from the wanton destruction of food crops and civilian property, in particular homes, to stop the laying of landmines, especially anti-personnel mines, to fulfil their duty to cooperate with the United Nations mine action programme and to protect its personnel, to prohibit conscripting or enlisting children or using them to participate in hostilities in violation of international law and to ensure the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of children into society;

(*e*) To provide efficient and effective remedies to the victims of grave violations and abuses of human rights and of international humanitarian law and to bring the perpetrators to trial;

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[596] A/54/174-S/1999/812, annex.

(*f*) To treat all suspects and convicted or detained persons in accordance with relevant international instruments and to refrain from arbitrary detention, including detention of civilian foreign nationals, and urges their captors to release them as well as non-criminal civilian prisoners;

10. *Demands* that all the Afghan parties fulfil their obligations regarding the safety of all personnel of diplomatic missions, the United Nations and other international organizations, as well as their premises in Afghanistan, and to cooperate fully and without discrimination on grounds of gender, nationality or religion with the United Nations and associated bodies and with other humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations;

11. *Urges* all the Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to bring to an end without delay all violations of the human rights of women and girls and to take urgent measures to ensure:

(*a*) The repeal of all legislative and other measures that discriminate against women and girls and those that impede the realization of all their human rights;

(*b*) The effective participation of women in civil, cultural, economic, political and social life throughout the country;

(*c*) Respect for the right of women to work and their reintegration into employment, including in the specialized agencies and human rights organizations;

(*d*) The equal right of women and girls to education without discrimination, the reopening of schools and the admission of women and girls to all levels of education;

(*e*) Respect for the equal right of women to security of person, and to ensure that those responsible for physical attacks on women are brought to justice;

(*f*) Respect for the freedom of movement of women;

(*g*) Respect for the effective and equal access of women and girls to the facilities necessary to protect their right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences,[597] on her mission to Afghanistan;

13. *Urges* all Afghan parties to respect all international human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[594] to bring to an end without delay all violations of the human rights of women and girls, to take urgent measures to ensure respect for all fundamental freedoms and to respect international humanitarian law with regard to the conduct of hostilities;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the activities carried out by the International Committee of the Red Cross, as well as by non-governmental organizations, throughout the territory of Afghanistan;

15. *Recalls* its invitation extended to the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to proceed without delay to investigate fully reports of mass killings of prisoners of war and civilians, rape and cruel treatment in Afghanistan, expresses deep regret for the lack of cooperation by Afghan parties, calls upon the United Front and the Taliban to fulfil their stated commitment to cooperate with such investigations, and, noting the summary of the report on the investigations,[598] expresses its deep regret to all the parties for the unsatisfactory results;

16. *Notes with grave concern* the recent reports of summary executions of prisoners in Taliban-held areas in the north of Afghanistan, which have been denied by the Taliban, and calls upon the Taliban to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur in fully investigating those allegations;

17. *Invites* the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to ensure that the ongoing process of deployment of the civilian affairs observers in Afghanistan is completed as soon as possible and that gender issues and the rights of children are fully taken into account in their mission;

18. *Appeals* to all States, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, specialized agencies and other international organizations to provide humanitarian assistance to all in need, and urges all Afghan parties to ensure free, safe and unhindered access to all humanitarian personnel, as part of an overall effort to achieve peace;

19. *Expresses its deep concern* at reports of attacks on and looting of cultural artifacts in Afghanistan, emphasizes that all parties share the responsibility to protect their common heritage, and requests all Member States to take appropriate measures to prevent the looting of cultural artifacts and to ensure their return to Afghanistan;

20. *Urges* all the Afghan parties to extend their cooperation to the Commission on Human Rights and to all those special rapporteurs who are seeking invitations, and, in particular, calls upon the Taliban to accommodate the forthcoming visit of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur;

22. *Decides* to keep the situation of human rights in Afghanistan under consideration at its fifty-sixth session, in the

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[597] E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.4.

[598] A/54/626, annex.

light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

## RESOLUTION 55/219

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/595 and Corr.1 and 2, para. 35)[599]

### 55/219. The critical situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/140 of 17 December 1999, in which it, inter alia, took note with appreciation of the proposal for a new working method of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women through the establishment of an electronic Gender Awareness Information and Networking System, and urged Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute or consider increasing their contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

*Reiterating* paragraph 85 (*c*) of the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[600] which called for support for national efforts, particularly in developing countries, for enlarged access to new information technology as part of the efforts to develop collaborative research, training and information dissemination, including through the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System developed by the Institute, while at the same time supporting traditional methods of information dissemination, research and training,

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/24 of 28 July 2000, in which article VI, paragraph 1, of the statute of the Institute[601] was amended with the aim of allowing the Institute to fund its activities on the basis of voluntary contributions from States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, foundations, including the United Nations Foundation, private sources and other sources, in accordance with article VII of the statute,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[602] which provides an overview of the current situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;

2. *Acknowledges with appreciation* that, despite severe limitations, and in compliance with the request of the General Assembly in its resolution 54/140, the Institute translated the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System into Spanish and is in the process of initiating translation into other official languages of the United Nations;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the current efforts being made by the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women of the Secretariat for the revitalization of the Institute;

4. *Expresses grave concern* over the following matters:

(*a*) Despite the revitalization and fund-raising efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and the Institute, contributions have not reached the level required to enable the Institute to operate beyond 31 December 2000;

(*b*) The lack of resources to ensure the future of the only research and training institute for the advancement of women within the United Nations system;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly during its fifty-fifth session on additional possibilities to support the Institute in fulfilling its personnel and administrative needs in conformity with article VII of its statute;

6. *Decides*, in view of the difficult financial situation of the Institute, to provide it with financial assistance on a non-recurrent basis, in a manner to be determined, in order to enable it to continue its activities throughout 2001;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that continue to contribute to and support the activities of the Institute;

8. *Urges* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to or consider increasing their contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to facilitate the ongoing programmes and activities of the Institute;

9. *Invites* the Institute to intensify its campaign to raise funds and attract support from, inter alia, private sector foundations and corporations for its activities;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in his reports on the activities of the Institute detailed information on the financial flows of the Trust Fund and the utilization of the resources of the Institute, in keeping with similar reports on such institutes as the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

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[599] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Croatia, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Portugal, Romania, Spain and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

[600] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[601] A/39/511, annex.

[602] A/55/385.

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## RESOLUTIONS 55/5 A to F

## 55/5. Scale of assessments for apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

### Resolution A

Adopted at the 41st plenary meeting, on 26 October 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/521, para. 7)[1]

### A

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/215 B of 22 December 1997, 53/36 C of 18 December 1998 and 54/237 C of 23 December 1999,

*Having considered* the letter dated 17 July 2000 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee transmitting a letter dated 30 June 2000 from the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions regarding the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions,[2]

*Having also considered* the letter dated 26 September 2000 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee transmitting a letter dated 25 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations appending a letter from the Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan,[3]

*Reaffirming* the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2. *Urges* all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without imposing conditions, in order to avoid difficulties being experienced by the United Nations;

3. *Decides* that Burundi, the Comoros, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Sao Tome and Principe and Tajikistan should be permitted to vote in the General Assembly until 30 June 2001;

4. *Decides also* that Kyrgyzstan would be permitted to vote from 1 January until 30 June 2001 should it fall at that time in arrears under Article 19 of the Charter;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order to ensure the sound financing of the Organization, to review the implications of the calculation of assessed contributions in arrears for the purpose of the application of Article 19 of the Charter at the beginning of each calendar year and at the beginning of the financial peacekeeping period on 1 July of each year, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the first part of its resumed fifty-fifth session;

6. *Decides*, subject to the outcome of negotiations in the General Assembly on the report of the Secretary-General and the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions thereon, as requested in paragraph 5 above, at the main part of its fifty-sixth session and subject to further decision on its implementation by the General Assembly, to compare arrears with the amount actually assessed and payable for the preceding two full years for the purpose of the application of Article 19 of the Charter;

7. *Requests* the Committee on Contributions to consider further the indexation of arrears, interest on arrears, multi-year payment plans, early reimbursement to troop-contributing countries and further suggestions for measures to encourage the timely, full and unconditional payment of assessed contributions, taking into account the experience with incentives and sanctions for the payment of assessed contributions of other United Nations organizations and other multilateral and regional organizations, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

8. *Calls upon* the Committee on Contributions to give more detailed information and adequate reasons and rationale when making its recommendations.

### Resolutions B to F

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/521/Add.1, para. 7)[4]

### B

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[5] in which the Assembly resolved, inter alia, to ensure that the Organization is provided on a timely and predictable basis with the resources it needs to carry out its mandates,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on Contributions,[6]

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[2] A/C.5/55/2.

[3] A/C.5/55/12.

[4] The draft resolutions recommended in the report were submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[5] See resolution 55/2.

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 11* and corrigendum (A/55/11 and Corr.1).

1. *Decides* that the scale of assessments for the period 2001–2003 shall be based on the following elements and criteria:

(*a*) Estimates of the gross national product;

(*b*) Average statistical base periods of six and three years;

(*c*) Conversion rates based on market exchange rates, except where that would cause excessive fluctuations and distortions in the income of some Member States, when price-adjusted rates of exchange or other appropriate conversion rates should be employed, taking due account of General Assembly resolution 46/221 B of 21 December 1991;

(*d*) The debt-burden approach employed in the scale of assessments for the period 1995-1997;

(*e*) A low per capita income adjustment of 80 per cent, with the threshold per capita income limit of the average per capita gross national product of all Member States for the statistical base periods;

(*f*) A minimum assessment rate of 0.001 per cent;

(*g*) A maximum assessment rate for the least developed countries of 0.01 per cent;

(*h*) A maximum assessment rate of 22 per cent;

2. *Decides also* that the elements of the scale of assessments contained in paragraph 1 above will be fixed until 2006, subject to the provisions of resolution C below, in particular paragraph 2 of that resolution, and without prejudice to rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

3. *Notes* that the application of the methodology outlined in paragraph 1 above will lead to a substantial increase in the rate of assessment of some Member States;

4. *Decides* to apply transitional measures to address those substantial increases;

5. *Notes* that the United States of America has decided to pay to the United Nations in 2001 an amount equal to 3 per cent of the amount assessed on Member States pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/239 of 23 December 2000;

6. *Decides*, as an exceptional measure and notwithstanding the provisions of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, that this amount should be credited against the assessed contributions of the other Member States for the programme budget for 2001, as reflected in annex I to the present resolution;

7. *Resolves* that the scale of assessments for the contribution of Member States to the regular budget of the United Nations for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003 shall be as contained in annex II to the present resolution;

8. *Resolves also* that:

(*a*) Notwithstanding the terms of financial regulation 5.5, the Secretary-General shall be empowered to accept, at his discretion and after consultation with the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions, a portion of the contributions of Member States for the calendar years 2001, 2002 and 2003 in currencies other than United States dollars;

(*b*) In accordance with financial regulation 5.9, States which are not Members of the United Nations but which participate in certain of its activities shall be called upon to contribute towards the 2001, 2002 and 2003 expenses of the Organization on the basis of the following rates:

| | |
|---|---|
| Holy See | 0.001 |
| Switzerland | 1.274 |

These rates represent the basis for the calculation of the flat annual fees to be charged to non-member States in accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/197 B of 21 December 1989.

## Annex I

| *Member State* | *Final share of United States 3 per cent*[a] |
|---|---|
| Afghanistan | 0.0020 |
| Albania | - |
| Algeria | 0.0020 |
| Andorra | - |
| Angola | - |
| Antigua and Barbuda | - |
| Argentina | 0.0440 |
| Armenia | - |
| Australia | 0.0320 |
| Austria | 0.0326 |
| Azerbaijan | - |
| Bahamas | - |
| Bahrain | - |
| Bangladesh | - |
| Barbados | - |
| Belarus | 0.0010 |
| Belgium | 0.0378 |
| Belize | - |
| Benin | - |
| Bhutan | - |
| Bolivia | - |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | - |
| Botswana | 0.0010 |
| Brazil | 0.5290 |
| Brunei Darussalam | 0.0010 |
| Bulgaria | - |
| Burkina Faso | - |
| Burundi | - |
| Cambodia | - |
| Cameroon | - |
| Canada | - |
| Cape Verde | - |
| Central African Republic | - |
| Chad | - |
| Chile | 0.0470 |
| China | 0.0590 |
| Colombia | 0.0440 |
| Comoros | - |
| Congo | - |
| Costa Rica | - |
| Côte d'Ivoire | - |
| Croatia | 0.0020 |
| Cuba | 0.0010 |
| Cyprus | 0.0020 |
| Czech Republic | 0.0450 |
| Democratic People's Republic of Korea | - |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | - |
| Denmark | 0.0255 |
| Djibouti | - |
| Dominica | - |
| Dominican Republic | 0.0010 |
| Ecuador | 0.0010 |
| Egypt | 0.0040 |
| El Salvador | 0.0010 |
| Equatorial Guinea | - |
| Eritrea | - |
| Estonia | - |
| Ethiopia | - |
| Fiji | - |
| Finland | 0.0176 |
| France | 0.2199 |
| Gabon | - |
| Gambia | - |
| Georgia | - |
| Germany | 0.3325 |
| Ghana | - |
| Greece | 0.0185 |
| Grenada | - |
| Guatemala | 0.0010 |
| Guinea | - |
| Guinea-Bissau | - |
| Guyana | - |
| Haiti | - |
| Honduras | 0.0010 |
| Hungary | 0.0050 |
| Iceland | 0.0020 |
| India | 0.0130 |
| Indonesia | 0.0070 |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) | 0.0600 |
| Iraq | 0.0300 |
| Ireland | 0.0097 |
| Israel | 0.0160 |
| Italy | 0.1716 |
| Jamaica | - |
| Japan | - |
| Jordan | - |
| Kazakhstan | 0.0010 |
| Kenya | - |
| Kiribati | - |
| Kuwait | 0.0060 |
| Kyrgyzstan | - |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | - |
| Latvia | - |
| Lebanon | - |
| Lesotho | - |
| Liberia | - |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 0.0020 |
| Liechtenstein | 0.0010 |

| *Member State* | *Final share of United States 3 per cent*[a] |
|---|---|
| Lithuania | 0.0010 |
| Luxembourg | 0.0026 |
| Madagascar | 0.0010 |
| Malawi | 0.0010 |
| Malaysia | 0.0080 |
| Maldives | - |
| Mali | - |
| Malta | 0.0010 |
| Marshall Islands | - |
| Mauritania | - |
| Mauritius | 0.0010 |
| Mexico | 0.0430 |
| Micronesia (Federated States of) | - |
| Monaco | 0.0010 |
| Mongolia | - |
| Morocco | 0.0020 |
| Mozambique | - |
| Myanmar | - |
| Namibia | 0.0010 |
| Nauru | - |
| Nepal | - |
| Netherlands | 0.0598 |
| New Zealand | 0.0040 |
| Nicaragua | - |
| Niger | - |
| Nigeria | 0.0150 |
| Norway | - |
| Oman | 0.0030 |
| Pakistan | 0.0020 |
| Palau | - |
| Panama | 0.0010 |
| Papua New Guinea | 0.0010 |
| Paraguay | 0.0010 |
| Peru | 0.0050 |
| Philippines | 0.0040 |
| Poland | 0.0840 |
| Portugal | 0.0150 |
| Qatar | 0.0020 |
| Republic of Korea | 0.4100 |
| Republic of Moldova | - |
| Romania | 0.0020 |
| Russian Federation | - |
| Rwanda | - |
| Saint Kitts and Nevis | - |
| Saint Lucia | - |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | - |
| Samoa | - |
| San Marino | - |
| Sao Tome and Principe | - |
| Saudi Arabia | 0.0220 |
| Senegal | 0.0010 |
| Seychelles | - |
| Sierra Leone | - |
| Singapore | 0.0150 |
| Slovakia | 0.0020 |
| Slovenia | 0.0030 |
| Solomon Islands | - |
| Somalia | - |
| South Africa | 0.0170 |
| Spain | 0.0853 |
| Sri Lanka | 0.0010 |
| Sudan | - |
| Suriname | - |
| Swaziland | - |
| Sweden | 0.0343 |
| Syrian Arab Republic | 0.0020 |
| Tajikistan | - |
| Thailand | 0.0650 |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | - |
| Togo | - |
| Tonga | - |
| Trinidad and Tobago | 0.0010 |
| Tunisia | 0.0010 |
| Turkey | 0.0170 |
| Turkmenistan | - |
| Tuvalu | - |
| Uganda | - |
| Ukraine | 0.0020 |
| United Arab Emirates | 0.0080 |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | 0.1883 |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 0.0010 |
| United States of America | - |
| Uruguay | 0.0180 |
| Uzbekistan | 0.0010 |
| Vanuatu | - |
| Venezuela | 0.0080 |
| Viet Nam | 0.0040 |
| Yemen | - |
| Yugoslavia | 0.0010 |
| Zambia | - |
| Zimbabwe | 0.0010 |
| **Total** | **3.0000** |

[a] 3 per cent additional payment by the United States of America.

## Annex II

| *Member State* | *Scale 2001* | *Scale 2002* | *Scale 2003* |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *Percentage* | | |
| Afghanistan | 0.008 | 0.007 | 0.00900 |
| Albania | 0.003 | 0.003 | 0.00300 |
| Algeria | 0.070 | 0.071 | 0.07000 |
| Andorra | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.00400 |
| Angola | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Antigua and Barbuda | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Argentina | 1.156 | 1.159 | 1.14900 |
| Armenia | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Australia | 1.636 | 1.640 | 1.62700 |
| Austria | 0.952 | 0.954 | 0.94700 |
| Azerbaijan | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.00400 |
| Bahamas | 0.012 | 0.012 | 0.01200 |
| Bahrain | 0.018 | 0.018 | 0.01800 |
| Bangladesh | 0.010 | 0.010 | 0.01000 |
| Barbados | 0.009 | 0.009 | 0.00900 |
| Belarus | 0.019 | 0.019 | 0.01900 |
| Belgium | 1.136 | 1.138 | 1.12900 |
| Belize | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Benin | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Bhutan | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Bolivia | 0.008 | 0.008 | 0.00800 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.00400 |
| Botswana | 0.010 | 0.010 | 0.01000 |
| Brazil | 2.231 | 2.093 | 2.39000 |
| Brunei Darussalam | 0.033 | 0.033 | 0.03300 |
| Bulgaria | 0.013 | 0.013 | 0.01300 |
| Burkina Faso | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Burundi | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Cambodia | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Cameroon | 0.009 | 0.009 | 0.00900 |
| Canada | 2.573 | 2.579 | 2.55800 |
| Cape Verde | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Central African Republic | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Chad | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Chile | 0.198 | 0.187 | 0.21200 |
| China | 1.541 | 1.545 | 1.53200 |
| Colombia | 0.186 | 0.171 | 0.20100 |
| Comoros | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Congo | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Costa Rica | 0.020 | 0.020 | 0.02000 |
| Côte d'Ivoire | 0.009 | 0.009 | 0.00900 |
| Croatia | 0.039 | 0.039 | 0.03900 |
| Cuba | 0.030 | 0.030 | 0.03000 |
| Cyprus | 0.038 | 0.038 | 0.03800 |
| Czech Republic | 0.189 | 0.172 | 0.20300 |
| Democratic People's Republic of Korea | 0.009 | 0.009 | 0.00900 |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.00400 |
| Denmark | 0.753 | 0.755 | 0.74900 |
| Djibouti | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Dominica | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Dominican Republic | 0.023 | 0.023 | 0.02300 |
| Ecuador | 0.025 | 0.025 | 0.02500 |
| Egypt | 0.081 | 0.081 | 0.08100 |
| El Salvador | 0.018 | 0.018 | 0.01800 |
| Equatorial Guinea | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Eritrea | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Estonia | 0.010 | 0.010 | 0.01000 |
| Ethiopia | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.00400 |
| Fiji | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.00400 |
| Finland | 0.525 | 0.526 | 0.52200 |
| France | 6.503 | 6.516 | 6.46600 |
| Gabon | 0.014 | 0.014 | 0.01400 |
| Gambia | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Georgia | 0.005 | 0.005 | 0.00500 |
| Germany | 9.825 | 9.845 | 9.76900 |
| Ghana | 0.005 | 0.005 | 0.00500 |
| Greece | 0.542 | 0.543 | 0.53900 |
| Grenada | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Guatemala | 0.027 | 0.027 | 0.02700 |
| Guinea | 0.003 | 0.003 | 0.00300 |
| Guinea-Bissau | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Guyana | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Haiti | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Honduras | 0.005 | 0.004 | 0.00500 |
| Hungary | 0.121 | 0.121 | 0.12000 |
| Iceland | 0.033 | 0.033 | 0.03300 |
| India | 0.343 | 0.344 | 0.34100 |
| Indonesia | 0.201 | 0.201 | 0.20000 |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) | 0.253 | 0.236 | 0.27200 |
| Iraq | 0.127 | 0.102 | 0.13600 |
| Ireland | 0.296 | 0.297 | 0.29400 |
| Israel | 0.417 | 0.418 | 0.41500 |
| Italy | 5.094 | 5.104 | 5.06475 |
| Jamaica | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.00400 |
| Japan | 19.629 | 19.669 | 19.51575 |
| Jordan | 0.008 | 0.008 | 0.00800 |
| Kazakhstan | 0.029 | 0.029 | 0.02800 |
| Kenya | 0.008 | 0.008 | 0.00800 |
| Kiribati | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Kuwait | 0.148 | 0.148 | 0.14700 |
| Kyrgyzstan | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Latvia | 0.010 | 0.010 | 0.01000 |
| Lebanon | 0.012 | 0.012 | 0.01200 |
| Lesotho | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |

| *Member State* | *Scale 2001* | *Scale 2002* | *Scale 2003* |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *Percentage* | | |
| Liberia | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 0.067 | 0.067 | 0.06700 |
| Liechtenstein | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.00600 |
| Lithuania | 0.017 | 0.017 | 0.01700 |
| Luxembourg | 0.080 | 0.080 | 0.08000 |
| Madagascar | 0.003 | 0.003 | 0.00300 |
| Malawi | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Malaysia | 0.237 | 0.237 | 0.23500 |
| Maldives | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Mali | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Malta | 0.015 | 0.015 | 0.01500 |
| Marshall Islands | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Mauritania | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Mauritius | 0.011 | 0.011 | 0.01100 |
| Mexico | 1.093 | 1.095 | 1.08600 |
| Micronesia (Federated States of) | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Monaco | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.00400 |
| Mongolia | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Morocco | 0.045 | 0.045 | 0.04400 |
| Mozambique | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Myanmar | 0.010 | 0.010 | 0.01000 |
| Namibia | 0.007 | 0.007 | 0.00700 |
| Nauru | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Nepal | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.00400 |
| Netherlands | 1.748 | 1.751 | 1.73800 |
| New Zealand | 0.242 | 0.243 | 0.24100 |
| Nicaragua | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Niger | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Nigeria | 0.062 | 0.056 | 0.06800 |
| Norway | 0.650 | 0.652 | 0.64600 |
| Oman | 0.062 | 0.062 | 0.06100 |
| Pakistan | 0.061 | 0.061 | 0.06100 |
| Palau | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Panama | 0.018 | 0.018 | 0.01800 |
| Papua New Guinea | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.00600 |
| Paraguay | 0.016 | 0.016 | 0.01600 |
| Peru | 0.119 | 0.119 | 0.11800 |
| Philippines | 0.101 | 0.101 | 0.10000 |
| Poland | 0.353 | 0.319 | 0.37800 |
| Portugal | 0.465 | 0.466 | 0.46200 |
| Qatar | 0.034 | 0.034 | 0.03400 |
| Republic of Korea | 1.728 | 1.866 | 1.85100 |
| Republic of Moldova | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Romania | 0.059 | 0.059 | 0.05800 |
| Russian Federation | 1.200 | 1.200 | 1.20000 |
| Rwanda | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Saint Kitts and Nevis | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Saint Lucia | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Samoa | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| San Marino | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Sao Tome and Principe | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Saudi Arabia | 0.557 | 0.559 | 0.55400 |
| Senegal | 0.005 | 0.005 | 0.00500 |
| Seychelles | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Sierra Leone | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Singapore | 0.395 | 0.396 | 0.39300 |
| Slovakia | 0.043 | 0.043 | 0.04300 |
| Slovenia | 0.081 | 0.081 | 0.08100 |
| Solomon Islands | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Somalia | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| South Africa | 0.410 | 0.411 | 0.40800 |
| Spain | 2.534 | 2.539 | 2.51875 |
| Sri Lanka | 0.016 | 0.016 | 0.01600 |
| Sudan | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.00600 |
| Suriname | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Swaziland | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Sweden | 1.033 | 1.035 | 1.02675 |
| Syrian Arab Republic | 0.081 | 0.081 | 0.08000 |
| Tajikistan | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Thailand | 0.275 | 0.254 | 0.29400 |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.00600 |
| Togo | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Tonga | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | 0.016 | 0.016 | 0.01600 |
| Tunisia | 0.031 | 0.031 | 0.03000 |
| Turkey | 0.443 | 0.444 | 0.44000 |
| Turkmenistan | 0.003 | 0.003 | 0.00300 |
| Tuvalu | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Uganda | 0.005 | 0.005 | 0.00500 |
| Ukraine | 0.053 | 0.053 | 0.05300 |
| United Arab Emirates | 0.204 | 0.204 | 0.20200 |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | 5.568 | 5.579 | 5.53600 |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.00400 |
| United States of America | 22.000 | 22.000 | 22.00000 |
| Uruguay | 0.075 | 0.081 | 0.08000 |
| Uzbekistan | 0.011 | 0.011 | 0.01100 |
| Vanuatu | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.00100 |
| Venezuela | 0.210 | 0.210 | 0.20800 |
| Viet Nam | 0.015 | 0.013 | 0.01600 |
| Yemen | 0.007 | 0.007 | 0.00600 |
| Yugoslavia | 0.020 | 0.020 | 0.02000 |
| Zambia | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.00200 |
| Zimbabwe | 0.008 | 0.008 | 0.00800 |
| **Total** | **100.000** | **100.000** | **100.00000** |

## C

*The General Assembly,*

*Noting* that the financial burdens resulting from the reformed scale of assessments for the regular budget for calendar year 2001 will be borne in part by a voluntary donation from the major contributor,

*Urging and expecting* all Member States currently in arrears to fulfil their duties under international law and to settle those arrears promptly and in full,

1. *Establishes*, as from 1 January 2001, a reduced ceiling of 22 per cent for the assessed contribution of any individual Member State;

2. *Decides* to review the position at the end of 2003 and, depending on the status of contributions and arrears, to determine all appropriate measures to remedy the situation, including adjustments of the ceiling in keeping with its resolution 52/215 A to D of 22 December 1997;

3. *Stresses* that the reduction of the maximum assessment rate referred to in paragraph 1 of resolution B above shall apply to the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations and should have no automatic implication for the apportionment of the expenses of the specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency.

## D

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions contained in its reports on its fifty-ninth[7] and sixtieth[6] sessions,

1. *Takes note* of the decision of the Committee on Contributions to consider the system of assessment of non-member States further at its sixty-first session;

2. *Decides* that, from 2001, the flat annual fee percentage for the Holy See should be set at 25 per cent of the approved notional rate of assessment.

## E

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 47/217 of 23 December 1992, 51/218 E of 17 June 1997, 55/1 of 5 September 2000 and 55/12 of 1 November 2000,

*Recalling also* the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions with respect to the assessment of Tuvalu as a non-member State,

1. *Decides* that the rate of assessment for Tuvalu, admitted to membership in the United Nations on 5 September 2000, should be 0.001 per cent for the year 2000;

2. *Decides also* that the rate of assessment for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, admitted to membership in the United Nations on 1 November 2000, should be 0.026 per cent for the year 2000;

3. *Decides further* that the contributions of Tuvalu and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for the regular budget and the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994, for the year 2000 should be calculated on the basis of one twelfth of their relevant rates of assessment for the year 2000 per full calendar month of membership;

4. *Decides* that Tuvalu should be credited with a corresponding proportion of its non-member State assessment for the year 2000;

5. *Decides also* that the contributions of Tuvalu and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for the year 2000 should otherwise be applied to the same basis of assessment as for other Member States, except that, in the case of appropriations or apportionments approved by the General Assembly for the financing of peacekeeping operations, the contributions of Tuvalu and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as determined by the group of Member States to which they may be assigned by the Assembly, should be calculated in proportion to the calendar year;

6. *Decides further* that the assessments of Tuvalu and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for the year 2000 should be taken into account as miscellaneous income in accordance with regulation 5.2 (*c*) of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

7. *Decides* that, in accordance with financial regulation 5.8, the advances of Tuvalu and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the Working Capital Fund should be calculated by the application of their rates of assessment for the year 2000 to the authorized level of the Fund and should be added to the Fund, pending their incorporation in a 100 per cent scale for the Fund for 2002–2003;

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[7] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/54/11).

8. *Notes* that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia can be said to have a share in the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund, established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/217;[8]

9. *Notes also* that, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/217, the assessment of Tuvalu for the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund should be calculated by the application of its first rate of assessment for peacekeeping operations to the authorized level of the Fund.

### F

*The General Assembly*

1. *Decides* to continue the review of other matters to be considered at the sixty-first session of the Committee on Contributions during the resumed fifty-fifth session;

2. *Decides also* to continue consideration of the proposal for the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Working Group on the Implementation of the Principle of Capacity to Pay during its resumed fifty-fifth session.

## RESOLUTION 55/180

Adopted at the 86th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/681, para. 11),[9] by a recorded vote of 140 to 3, with no abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

*Against:* Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

*Abstentions:* None

## 55/180. Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon[10] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[11]

*Bearing in mind* Security Council resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, by which the Council established the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was resolution 1310 (2000) of 27 July 2000,

*Recalling* its resolution S-8/2 of 21 April 1978 on the financing of the Force and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 54/267 of 15 June 2000,

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 51/233 of 13 June 1997, 52/237 of 26 June 1998, 53/227 of 8 June 1999 and 54/267,

*Reaffirming also* that the costs of the Force are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member Sates in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Force, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

*Taking into account* the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations,

*Bearing in mind* the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

*Noting with appreciation* that voluntary contributions have been made to the Force,

*Mindful* of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

*Concerned* that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Force on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States,

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[8] See also A/51/778.

[9] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[10] A/55/482.

[11] A/55/516.

*Concerned also* that the surplus balances in the Special Account for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon have been used to meet expenses of the Force in order to compensate for the lack of income resulting from non-payment and late payment by Member States of their contributions,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon as at 31 October 2000, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 139.4 million United States dollars, representing some 3.9 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Force to the period ending 31 December 2000, notes that some 21 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Express its deep concern* that Israel did not comply with its resolutions 51/233, 52/237, 53/227 and 54/267;

3. *Stresses once again* that Israel should strictly abide by its resolutions 51/233, 52/237, 53/227 and 54/267;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

5. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

6. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Force in full and on time;

7. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

8. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

9. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Force, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with its resolution 52/1 A of 15 October 1997;

11. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[11]

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Force against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Force;

14. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure the full implementation of paragraph 8 of its resolution 51/233, paragraph 5 of its resolution 52/237, paragraph 11 of its resolution 53/227 and paragraph 14 of its resolution 54/267, stresses once again that Israel shall pay the amount of 1,284,633 dollars resulting from the incident at Qana on 18 April 1996, and requests the Secretary-General to report on this matter to the Assembly at its resumed fifty-fifth session;

15. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon the amount of 86,758,400 dollars gross (86,301,300 dollars net) for the expansion of the Force for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, in addition to the amount of 146,833,694 dollars gross (141,889,841 dollars net) already appropriated by the Assembly in its resolution 54/267;

16. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, taking into account the amount of 85,652,987 dollars gross (82,769,071 dollars net) already apportioned in accordance with its resolution 54/267 for the period from 1 July 2000 to 31 January 2001, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 50,609,069 dollars gross (50,342,425 dollars net), in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 and 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999, the scale of assessments for the year 2000[12] to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 43,379,202 dollars gross (43,150,650 dollars net), which is the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000, and the scale of assessments for the year 2001,[13] to be applied against the balance, that is, 7,229,867 dollars gross (7,191,775 dollars net) for the period from 1 to 31 January 2001;

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[12] See resolutions 52/215 A and 54/237 A.

[13] To be adopted by the General Assembly.

17. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 16 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 266,644 dollars approved for the Force for the period from 1 July 2000 to 31 January 2001, 228,552 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000 and the balance, that is, 38,092 dollars, pertaining to the period from 1 to 31 January 2001;

18. *Decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amount of 61,180,707 dollars gross (59,120,770 dollars net) already apportioned in accordance with its resolution 54/267 for the period from 1 February to 30 June 2001, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 36,149,331 dollars gross (35,958,875 dollars net), at a monthly rate of 7,229,867 dollars gross (7,191,775 dollars net), in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2001,[13] subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Force beyond 31 January 2001;

19. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 18 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 190,456 dollars approved for the Force for the period from 1 February to 30 June 2001;

20. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

21. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Force;

22. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

23. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon".

## RESOLUTION 55/220

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/689, para. 7)[14]

## 55/220. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 50/222 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 E of 17 June 1997, 52/212 B of 31 March 1998, 53/204 of 18 December 1998, 53/221, section VIII, of 7 April 1999 and 54/13 B of 23 December 1999,

*Having considered*, for the period ended 31 December 1999, the financial reports and audited financial statements of the United Nations,[15] the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO,[16] the United Nations University,[17] the United Nations Development Programme,[18] the United Nations Children's Fund,[19] the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[20] the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,[21] the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[22] the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme,[23] the United Nations Population Fund,[24] the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation,[25] the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme,[26] the United Nations Office for Project Services,[27] the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994,[28] the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,[29] the reports and audit opinions of the

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[14] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[15] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/55/5), vol. I.

[16] Ibid., vol. III.

[17] Ibid., vol. IV.

[18] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5A* (A/55/5/Add.1).

[19] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5B* (A/55/5/Add.2).

[20] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5C* and corrigendum (A/55/5/Add.3 and Corr.1).

[21] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5D* (A/55/5/Add.4).

[22] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5E* (A/55/5/Add.5).

[23] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5F* (A/55/5/Add.6).

[24] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5G* (A/55/5/Add.7).

[25] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5H* (A/55/5/Add.8).

[26] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5I* (A/55/5/Add.9).

[27] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5J* (A/55/5/Add.10).

[28] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5K* (A/55/5/Add.11).

[29] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5L* (A/55/5/Add.12).

Board of Auditors,[30] the concise summary of principal findings, conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports prepared by the Board of Auditors on the audit of the accounts,[31] the reports of the Secretary-General on the measures taken to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors[32] and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[33]

1. *Accepts* the financial reports and audited financial statements and the reports and audit opinions of the Board of Auditors regarding the above-mentioned organizations, subject to the provisions of the present resolution, with the exception of the financial statements of the United Nations Development Programme,[18] the United Nations Population Fund[24] and the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;[26]

2. *Approves* all the recommendations and conclusions contained in the reports of the Board of Auditors, and endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[33]

3. *Decides* to defer action on the financial statements of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme for the period ended 31 December 1999, pending certification by the Board of Auditors that satisfactory progress is being made towards removing the reasons for the qualified opinions or that the matter has been resolved, and decides to revert to this matter at its resumed fifty-fifth session;

4. *Commends* the Board of Auditors for the quality of its reports, in particular with respect to its comments on the management of resources;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the funds and programmes of the United Nations to present their financial statements on time so that the Board of Auditors can audit them and submit its reports to the General Assembly in accordance with the six-week rule;

6. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;[32]

7. *Notes* that the first report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations for the biennium ended 31 December 1999[34] did not comply with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999 regarding the inclusion of a footnote giving the reason for the late submission of a report;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the question of the term of office of the Board of Auditors and to report to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-fifth session under the item entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations";

9. *Decides* to consider the reports of the Board of Auditors on the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991[29] and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994[28] also under the agenda items relating to the financing of the Tribunals;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare the financial reports and audited financial statements for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in line with their budget cycles;

11. *Calls upon* the executive heads of the funds and programmes of the United Nations to improve their procurement practices, as appropriate, using the Procurement Division of the Office of Central Support Services of the Secretariat as a model in such areas as the posting of bids on the Internet and inviting all registered suppliers to bid;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the funds and programmes of the United Nations, in conjunction with the Board of Auditors, to continue to evaluate what financial information should be presented in the financial statements and schedules and what should be presented in annexes to the statements in accordance with the United Nations accounting standards.

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[30] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5* (A/55/5), vol. I, chaps. II and III; vol. III, chaps. II and III; and vol. IV, chaps. II and III; ibid., *Supplement No. 5A* (A/55/5/Add.1), chaps. II and III; ibid., *Supplement No. 5B* (A/55/5/Add.2), chaps. II and III; ibid., *Supplement No. 5C* and corrigendum (A/55/5/Add.3 and Corr.1), chaps. II and III; ibid., *Supplement No. 5D* (A/55/5/Add.4), chaps. II and III; ibid., *Supplement No. 5E* (A/55/5/Add.5), chaps. I and II; ibid., *Supplement No. 5F* (A/55/5/Add.6), chaps. II and III; ibid., *Supplement No. 5G* (A/55/5/Add.7), chaps. II and III; ibid., *Supplement No. 5H* (A/55/5/Add.8), chaps. II and III; ibid., *Supplement No. 5I* (A/55/5/Add.9), chaps. II and III; ibid., *Supplement No. 5J* (A/55/5/Add.10), chaps. II and III; ibid., *Supplement No. 5K* (A/55/5/Add.11), chaps. II and III; and ibid., *Supplement No. 5L* (A/55/5/Add.12), chaps. II and III.

[31] See A/55/364.

[32] A/55/80 and Add.1 and A/55/380 and Add.1.

[33] A/55/487.

[34] A/55/380.

## RESOLUTION 55/221

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/690, para. 6)[35]

### 55/221. Proposed regulations governing the status, basic rights and duties of officials other than Secretariat officials and experts on mission and regulations governing the status, basic rights and duties of the Secretary-General

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the reports of the Secretary-General on the proposed regulations governing the status, basic rights and duties of officials other than Secretariat officials and experts on mission[36] and on the regulations governing the status, basic rights and duties of the Secretary-General,[37]

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake consultations on the proposed regulations with the officials referred to in paragraph 1 (*a*) of his report on proposed regulations governing the status, basic rights and duties of officials other than Secretariat officials and experts on mission,[36] in particular those who are elected by the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its resumed fifty-fifth session, including on the following elements:

(*a*) The compatibility of the proposed regulations with the statutes governing the officials referred to above;

(*b*) The possible impact, if any, of the proposed regulations on the independence of those expert bodies;

(*c*) The accountability mechanisms envisaged to enforce the proposed regulations;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the report mentioned in paragraph 1 above, to submit additional information on whether the proposed regulations ensure the impartiality, neutrality, objectivity and accountability of the personnel referred to in paragraph 1 (*b*) of the report.

## RESOLUTION 55/222

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/702, para. 6)[38]

### 55/222. Pattern of conferences

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 43/222 A to E of 21 December 1988, 47/202 A to D of 22 December 1992, 48/222 A and B of 23 December 1993, 49/221 A to D of 23 December 1994, 50/11 of 2 November 1995, 50/206 A to F of 23 December 1995, 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998 and 54/248 of 23 December 1999 and its decisions 38/401 of 23 September 1983 and 52/468 of 31 March 1998,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on Conferences,[39] the reports of the Secretary-General[40] and the note by the Secretariat on the distribution of documentation,[41]

*Having also considered* the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[42]

#### I

#### Calendar of conferences and meetings

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Committee on Conferences, and takes note of its report,[39] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Approves* the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2001, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences,[43] also subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings for 2001 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

4. *Reaffirms its decision* that the headquarters rule shall be adhered to by all bodies, and decides that waivers to the headquarters rule shall be granted solely on the basis of the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations recommended by the Committee on Conferences for adoption by the General Assembly;

5. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences and the Secretary-General, when planning the calendar of conferences and meetings, to avoid simultaneous peak periods at the various

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[35] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[36] A/54/695 and Corr.1.

[37] A/54/710 and Corr.1.

[38] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[39] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/55/32).

[40] A/54/849, A/55/134, A/55/182, A/55/259 and A/55/410.

[41] A/AC.172/2000/6.

[42] A/55/430.

[43] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/55/32), annex.

duty stations and to avoid scheduling meetings of related intergovernmental bodies too close together;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat took into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolutions 53/208 A and 54/248 concerning Orthodox Good Friday and the official holidays of Id al-Fitr and Id al-Adha, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to observe those decisions when planning their meetings;

7. *Reaffirms* the provisions established by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/11 and reaffirmed in its resolution 54/64 of 6 December 1999 regarding multilingualism;

## II

## Utilization of conference-servicing resources and facilities

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Committee on Conferences to consult with those bodies that consistently utilized less than the applicable benchmark figure of their allocated resources for the past three sessions with a view to making appropriate recommendations in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources;

2. *Requests* duty stations away from Headquarters to keep statistics of requests for servicing of meetings;

3. *Reiterates* that meetings of Charter and mandated bodies must be serviced as a priority;

4. *Decides* to include all necessary resources in the budget for the biennium 2002–2003 to provide interpretation services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States upon request by those groups, on an ad hoc basis, in accordance with established practice, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the Committee on Conferences, a report on the implementation of this decision;

5. *Notes* the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, as far as possible, all requests for conference services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States are met;

6. *Notes with appreciation*, in particular in view of the increased requests for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, that services were provided for 84 per cent of the meetings requested by those groups, in spite of the difficulties experienced in the meetings programme in 2000, and that 100 per cent of the requests for facilities only were met;

7. *Notes with concern* the difficulties experienced by some Member States owing to the lack of conference services for some meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

8. *Urges* intergovernmental bodies to spare no effort at the planning stage to take into account meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, to make provision for such meetings in their programmes of work and to notify the conference services, well in advance, of any cancellations so that unutilized conference-servicing resources may, to the extent possible, be reassigned to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide information on meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States not serviced by conference services in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, when preparing budget proposals for conference services, to ensure that the level of resources proposed for temporary assistance is commensurate with the full demand for services, estimated on the basis of current experience;

11. *Notes* the initial steps taken by the Secretariat to establish a permanent interpretation service at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and reaffirms that its decisions in section B, paragraph 24, of resolution 54/248 and in paragraph 180 of resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999 should be fully implemented by January 2001;

12. *Notes with satisfaction* that the creation of a permanent interpretation service at Nairobi offers great potential for Nairobi as a venue for United Nations conferences and meetings, and takes note with appreciation of the efforts being made by the United Nations Office at Nairobi to attract more meetings to its facilities;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report on the utilization rates of interpretation services and conference facilities at all duty stations;

14. *Takes note* of the information in paragraphs 20 and 21 of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the improved utilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi[44] and the successful experience with respect to the events and meetings held there in April and May 2000;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider improving and modernizing the conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi in order to accommodate adequately major meetings and conferences, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the Committee on Conferences;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to issue a revision of administrative instruction ST/AI/342 on the

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[44] A/55/259.

guidelines for the preparation of host government agreements falling under General Assembly resolution 40/243 prior to the substantive session of the Committee on Conferences in 2001, and to take into account administrative arrangements with respect to the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

17. *Welcomes* the fact that, despite various constraints, steps have been taken to increase the utilization of conference centres at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Africa, and notes the plans for the future in this regard;

18. *Notes with concern* the lack of sufficient operational guidance in the management of the conference centres at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Africa;

19. *Notes with deep concern* the inadequate staff structure and the insufficient financial resources allocated for the marketing of the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore all possible options to increase further the utilization of the conference centres at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Africa, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the Committee on Conferences;

## III

## Documentation- and publication-related matters

1. *Notes with deep concern* the low rate of compliance with the six-week rule for the issuance of documentation, and encourages the Secretary-General, in view of the impact of late submissions on the timely issuance of documents, to intensify recent efforts with respect to planning meetings and forecasting documentation;

2. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that documentation is available in accordance with the six-week rule for the distribution of documents simultaneously in the six official languages of the General Assembly;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen accountability and responsibility measures, where applicable, as requested in section C, paragraph 11, of its resolution 54/248, to correct the alarming situation concerning the submission of documentation consistent with the six-week rule, and requests him to submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

4. *Invites* intergovernmental bodies, during their organizational sessions or other appropriate periods before the commencement of their substantive work, to review with author departments the question of the availability of documentation for the proper functioning of those bodies, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session through the Committee on Conferences;

5. *Decides* that there should not be any exemption to the rule that documents must be distributed in all official languages, and emphasizes the principle that all documents must be distributed simultaneously in all official languages before they are made available on United Nations web sites;

6. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General direct all departments to include, where appropriate, the following elements in reports originating in the Secretariat:

(*a*) A summary of the report;

(*b*) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;

(*c*) Relevant background information;

7. *Reiterates* that all documents submitted to legislative organs by the Secretariat and expert bodies for consideration and action should have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to submit its reports in accordance with paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 53/208 B;

9. *Reaffirms its decision* that, if a report is issued late, the reasons for the delay should be indicated when the report is introduced;

10. *Reiterates its decision* that, if a report is submitted late to conference services, the reasons therefor should be included in a footnote to the document;

11. *Encourages* chairpersons of intergovernmental bodies to institute time limits, when appropriate, for the introduction of standard documents by the Secretariat;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that the texts of all new public documents, in all six official languages, and information materials of the United Nations are made available through the United Nations web site daily and are accessible to Member States without delay;

13. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to publish, prior to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, an updated version of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations in the six official languages of the Organization;

14. *Further reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to publish, as a matter of priority, the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations in the six official languages of the Organization, once their consolidation has been completed;

15. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to eliminate the backlog in the publication of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*, and requests him to publish the

current and future issues of the *Repertoire* in all six official languages;

16. *Notes* the recent progress in reducing delays in the issuance of summary records, and requests the Secretary-General to consider means, including increased cooperation within the Secretariat, to continue efforts to accelerate their issuance;

17. *Notes with concern* the comments of the Committee on Conferences contained in paragraph 112 of its report,[39] and requests the Secretary-General to implement, as a matter of priority, the provision contained in paragraph 45 of annex II to its resolution 52/220 of 22 December 1997 and reiterated in paragraph 7 of its resolution 54/259 of 7 April 2000, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

## IV

## Translation- and interpretation-related matters

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to continue the efforts to utilize new technologies, such as computer-assisted translation, remote translation, terminology databases and speech recognition, in the six official languages so as to enhance further the productivity of conference services, and to keep the General Assembly informed of the introduction and use of any other new technology;

2. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that training opportunities in the six official languages are equally available to all language staff, including those at duty stations away from Headquarters;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in exceptional cases where an interpreter is assigned to an interpretation booth for which he or she has not passed the requisite competitive examination of the Interpretation Service, to set up an internal examination with standards similar to those of the competitive examinations of the Interpretation Service, which the interpreter must pass before such assignment;

4. *Reiterates its understanding* that the introduction of remote interpretation is not intended to replace traditional interpretation systems without the explicit approval of the General Assembly;

5. *Reaffirms its decision* that, in the absence of a decision of the General Assembly to the contrary, the use of remote interpretation shall not constitute an alternative to the current institutionalized system of interpretation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that trials of remote interpretation are not confined to specific duty stations and that each duty station is considered as both recipient and provider;

7. *Reaffirms its decision* that the use of remote interpretation should not affect the quality of interpretation or in itself lead to any further reduction in language posts, nor will it affect the equal treatment of the six official languages;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports on the question of remote interpretation include an analysis of all costs of any proposed system, its impact on the working conditions of interpreters, the level of service provided to delegates, the satisfaction of delegations with the interpretation and the technical aspects of this method of interpretation;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that efforts continue to be made to improve the quality control of language services at all duty stations;

10. *Takes note* of the technical difficulties and timing problems, referred to in paragraph 9 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[42] regarding remote interpretation, and requests the Secretary-General to clarify further the technical issues involved;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to comply with paragraphs 33 to 36 of its resolution 53/208 A, and also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, through the Committee on Conferences and the Advisory Committee, a report on possible measures to alleviate the excessive vacancy rates in language services at some duty stations and to ensure the required quality of conference services Secretariat-wide;

12. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to implement the system of incentives to attract language staff to duty stations with high vacancy rates, and requests him to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session analysing problems relating to recruitment in language services at all duty stations and proposing actions to address them;

13. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that translation, in principle, reflects the specificity of each language;

14. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, in order to improve further the quality of translation of documents issued in the six official languages, to ensure continuous dialogue between translation staff and interpretation staff, among United Nations headquarters at New York, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, and between translation divisions and Member States with regard to the standardization of the terminology used;

15. *Further reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to hold informational meetings in order to brief Member States periodically on the terminology used;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct consultations, with Member States concerned, on the improvement of translation services;

## V

### Information technology

1. *Urges* the Secretary-General to fill expeditiously the three official posts in the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat relating to web sites in Arabic, Chinese and Russian, in accordance with paragraph 151 of General Assembly resolution 54/249;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on policy issues regarding the translation of non-parliamentary and public information material into all official languages and the possibility of providing those materials on the United Nations web site in all official languages;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the new re-engineered optical disk system, referred to in paragraph 9 of his report;[45]

## VI

1. *Reaffirms* its decision 38/401 concerning the prohibition of smoking in small conference rooms and the discouragement of smoking in large conference rooms;

2. *Calls upon* representatives of Member States to abide strictly by its decision 38/401, and strongly encourages all users of United Nations conference facilities to refrain from smoking in order to avoid exposing non-smokers to involuntary passive smoking;

3. *Strongly discourages* smoking in the immediate vicinity of conference rooms.

## RESOLUTION 55/223

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/709, para. 7)[46]

## 55/223. United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 2000[47] and the statement submitted by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the Commission,[48]

*Reaffirming its commitment* to a single unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

*Convinced* that the common system constitutes the best instrument to secure staff of the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity for the international civil service, as stipulated under the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming* the central role of the Commission in the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

*Reaffirming also* the statute of the Commission,

## I

### Conditions of service applicable to both categories of staff

### A. Framework for human resources management

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/216 of 18 December 1996, 52/216 of 22 December 1997, 53/209 of 18 December 1998 and 54/238 of 23 December 1999,

1. *Welcomes with appreciation* the work of the Commission with regard to the integrated framework for human resources management, which would assist organizations of the common system to carry forward human resources management reforms;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions of the Commission as contained in paragraph 19 of its report;[47]

3. *Requests* the Commission to use the integrated framework as a guide to its future programme of work as contained in paragraph 18 of its report;[47]

4. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations common system to use the integrated framework as a basis for their future work in human resources policies and procedures and to bring it to the attention of their governing bodies;

### B. Standards of conduct for the international civil service

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/252 of 8 September 1998 and 54/238,

*Takes note* of the decisions of the Commission contained in paragraph 31 of its report,[47] urges organizations to reach consensus on the draft standards of conduct for the international civil service in sufficient time so as to enable the Commission to finalize the text to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, and emphasizes that the proposed standards should ensure that the staff uphold the principles of integrity, impartiality and independence;

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[45] A/54/849.

[46] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[47] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/55/30).

[48] A/55/629.

### C. Review of pay and benefits system

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/216, 52/216 and 53/209,

1. *Takes note* of the work of the Commission in respect of the review of the pay and benefits system in the context of the integrated framework for human resources management;

2. *Takes note also* of the decision of the Commission to move forward with the review of the pay and benefits system in accordance with the modalities described in annex III to its report;[47]

### D. Recognition of language knowledge

*Recalling* section II.E of its resolution 48/224 of 23 December 1993 and section II.B of its resolution 53/209,

*Takes note* of the decision of the Commission to address the issue of recognition of language knowledge within the context of the comprehensive review of the pay and benefits system;

### E. Education grant

*Recalling* section III.C of its resolution 54/238, by which it requested the Commission to complete the review of the methodology for the education grant and report the results to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session,

1. *Takes note* of the decisions and recommendations of the Commission in respect of the review of the methodology for the education grant as contained in paragraph 81 of its report;[47]

2. *Urges* the organizations of the United Nations common system to harmonize their rules and regulations to ensure that the education grant is treated as a benefit payable to internationally recruited staff with expatriate status only;

3. *Approves* increases in the maximum reimbursement levels in five currency areas, as well as other adjustments to the management of expenses under the education grant, as contained in paragraph 93 of its report;[47]

4. *Takes note* of the decisions of the Commission as contained in paragraphs 94 and 95 of its report;[47]

### F. Common scale of staff assessment

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/225 of 23 December 1993 and 51/216,

*Takes note* of the decisions of the Commission as contained in paragraph 102 of its report;[47]

## II

## Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

### A. Noblemaire principle and its application

*Recalling* its resolution 44/198 of 21 December 1989 and other relevant resolutions,

1. *Reaffirms* the continued application of the Noblemaire principle;

2. *Also reaffirms* the need to continue to ensure the competitiveness of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system;

### B. Grade equivalencies between the United States federal civil service and the United Nations common system

*Recalling* section I.A of its resolution 50/208 of 23 December 1995,

1. *Takes note* of the updated grade equivalency study undertaken in 2000 by the Commission with the United States federal civil service;

2. *Also takes note* of the decisions of the Commission in respect of the grade equivalency study undertaken in 2000 with the comparator civil service as contained in paragraph 149 of its report;[47]

### C. Evolution of the margin

*Recalling* section I.B of its resolution 52/216 and the standing mandate from the General Assembly, in which the Commission is requested to continue its review of the relationship between the net remuneration of the United Nations staff in the Professional and higher categories in New York and that of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service) employees in comparable positions in Washington, D.C. (referred to as "the margin"),

*Recalling also* section IX, paragraph 3, of its resolution 46/191 A of 20 December 1991, in which it requested the Commission to include in its work a review of the differences between the United Nations and the United States net remuneration at individual grade levels,

1. *Notes* that the margin between the net remuneration of United Nations staff in grades P-1 to D-2 in New York and that of officials in comparable positions in the United States federal civil service for 2000 is 113.3, based on the results of the grade equivalency study between the United Nations and the United States carried out in 2000;

2. *Also notes* from annex V to the report of the Commission that the United Nations/United States remuneration ratios range from 119.9 at the P-2 level to 105.5 at the D-2 level, and considers that this imbalance should be addressed in the context of the overall margin considerations established by the General Assembly;

### D. Base/floor salary scale

*Recalling* section I.H of its resolution 44/198, by which it established a floor net salary level for staff in the Professional and higher categories by reference to the corresponding base net salary levels of officials in comparable positions serving at the base city of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service),

1. *Approves*, with effect from 1 March 2001, the revised base scale of gross and net salaries for staff in the Professional and higher categories, contained in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Commission, in the context of the review of the pay and benefits system, to review the firm linkage between the base/floor salary scale and the mobility and hardship allowance;

### E. Dependency allowances

*Recalling* section II.F, paragraph 2, of its resolution 47/216 of 23 December 1992, in which it noted that the Commission would review the level of dependency allowances every two years,

*Recalling also* section I.F, paragraph 4, of its resolution 53/209, in which it requested the Commission to examine the methodology, rationale and scope of the allowances,

*Noting* that the review of dependency allowances carried out by the Commission reflected relevant changes in tax abatement and social legislation at the seven headquarters duty stations since 1998,

1. *Takes note* of the decision of the Commission with regard to the methodology, rationale and scope of the allowances;

2. *Approves*, with effect from 1 January 2001, an increase of 11.89 per cent in the children's allowance, including that for disabled children, and in the secondary dependant's allowance;

3. *Takes note* of the updated list of hard-currency duty stations for which the allowances are specified in local currency, as contained in annex VIII to the report of the Commission;[47]

4. *Notes* that dependency allowances payable to eligible United Nations common system staff should be reduced by the amount of any direct payments received from a Government in respect of dependants;

### F. Post adjustment matters

*Recalling* its request in section II.G of its resolution 48/224 regarding the conduct of place-to-place surveys at headquarters duty stations,

1. *Welcomes* the review of the operation of the post adjustment system carried out by the Commission;

2. *Takes note* of the decisions reached by the Commission as contained in paragraph 157 of its report;[47]

## III

## Conditions of service of the General Service and other locally recruited categories

### A. Survey of best prevailing conditions of employment in New York and Montreal

*Recalling* section II.A of its resolution 52/216, in which it reaffirmed that the Flemming principle should continue to serve as the basis for determining the conditions of service of the General Service and related categories and endorsed the revised methodology for surveys of best prevailing conditions of employment for these categories,

*Takes note* of the results of the salary surveys conducted in New York and Montreal, as reported in chapter V of the report of the Commission;[47]

### B. Review of the headquarters salary survey methodology: decisions of the International Labour Organization Administrative Tribunal regarding the phasing out of the language factor in Rome and Vienna

*Recalling* section III, paragraph 2, of its resolution 47/216 and section II.E of its resolution 48/224,

*Takes note* of the decision of the Commission with regard to the treatment of the language factor, as contained in paragraph 192 of its report;[47]

## IV

## Strengthening the international civil service

*Decides* to defer consideration of the reports of the Secretary-General[49] with a view to taking a decision on strengthening the international civil service at the first part of its resumed fifty-fifth session.

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[49] A/55/526 and A/54/483.

## Annex

### Salary scale for staff in the Professional and higher categories showing annual gross salaries and net equivalents after application of staff assessment[a]

(United States dollars)

Effective 1 March 2001

| | | Steps | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Levels* | | *I* | *II* | *III* | *IV* | *V* | *VI* | *VII* | *VIII* | *IX* | *X* | *XI* | *XII* | *XIII* | *XIV* | *XV* |
| Under-Secretary-General | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| USG | Gross | 167 035 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Net D | 113 762 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Net S | 102 379 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Assistant Secretary-General | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ASG | Gross | 151 840 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Net D | 104 341 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Net S | 94 484 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Director | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| D-2 | Gross | 124 384 | 127 132 | 129 877 | 132 623 | 135 369 | 138 115 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Net D | 87 318 | 89 022 | 90 724 | 92 426 | 94 129 | 95 831 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Net S | 80 218 | 81 645 | 83 072 | 84 498 | 85 925 | 87 352 | | | | | | | | | |
| Principal Officer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| D-1 | Gross | 109 894 | 112 245 | 114 598 | 116 944 | 119 297 | 121 648 | 124 002 | 126 352 | 128 702 | | | | | | |
| | Net D | 78 334 | 79 792 | 81 251 | 82 705 | 84 164 | 85 622 | 87 081 | 88 538 | 89 995 | | | | | | |
| | Net S | 72 407 | 73 687 | 74 967 | 76 245 | 77 525 | 78 796 | 80 018 | 81 240 | 82 460 | | | | | | |
| Senior Officer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P-5 | Gross | 96 705 | 98 832 | 100 961 | 103 089 | 105 216 | 107 342 | 109 471 | 111 598 | 113 724 | 115 853 | 117 982 | 120 106 | 122 234 | | |
| | Net D | 70 157 | 71 476 | 72 796 | 74 115 | 75 434 | 76 752 | 78 072 | 79 391 | 80 709 | 82 029 | 83 349 | 84 666 | 85 985 | | |
| | Net S | 65 176 | 66 385 | 67 545 | 68 703 | 69 862 | 71 018 | 72 177 | 73 335 | 74 493 | 75 651 | 76 809 | 77 966 | 79 101 | | |
| First Officer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P-4 | Gross | 79 780 | 81 733 | 83 680 | 85 627 | 87 579 | 89 527 | 91 571 | 93 645 | 95 723 | 97 795 | 99 869 | 101 947 | 104 019 | 106 095 | 108 171 |
| | Net D | 59 255 | 60 544 | 61 829 | 63 114 | 64 402 | 65 688 | 66 974 | 68 260 | 69 548 | 70 833 | 72 119 | 73 407 | 74 692 | 75 979 | 77 266 |
| | Net S | 55 180 | 56 364 | 57 543 | 58 722 | 59 902 | 61 080 | 62 259 | 63 439 | 64 617 | 65 796 | 66 949 | 68 082 | 69 210 | 70 340 | 71 470 |
| Second Officer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P-3 | Gross | 65 388 | 67 220 | 69 053 | 70 880 | 72 714 | 74 544 | 76 373 | 78 206 | 80 038 | 81 868 | 83 700 | 85 529 | 87 361 | 89 191 | 91 089 |
| | Net D | 49 756 | 50 965 | 52 175 | 53 381 | 54 591 | 55 799 | 57 006 | 58 216 | 59 425 | 60 633 | 61 842 | 63 049 | 64 258 | 65 466 | 66 675 |
| | Net S | 46 445 | 47 556 | 48 669 | 49 780 | 50 892 | 52 002 | 53 113 | 54 225 | 55 335 | 56 447 | 57 555 | 58 663 | 59 770 | 60 877 | 61 985 |
| Associate Officer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P-2 | Gross | 53 129 | 54 632 | 56 132 | 57 633 | 59 135 | 60 692 | 62 332 | 63 967 | 65 606 | 67 244 | 68 879 | 70 520 | | | |
| | Net D | 41 253 | 42 335 | 43 415 | 44 496 | 45 577 | 46 657 | 47 739 | 48 818 | 49 900 | 50 981 | 52 060 | 53 143 | | | |
| | Net S | 38 694 | 39 675 | 40 653 | 41 633 | 42 611 | 43 592 | 44 587 | 45 580 | 46 577 | 47 571 | 48 564 | 49 561 | | | |
| Assistant Officer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P-1 | Gross | 41 189 | 42 633 | 44 075 | 45 519 | 46 960 | 48 403 | 49 847 | 51 290 | 52 731 | 54 174 | | | | | |
| | Net D | 32 656 | 33 696 | 34 734 | 35 774 | 36 811 | 37 850 | 38 890 | 39 929 | 40 966 | 42 005 | | | | | |
| | Net S | 30 805 | 31 763 | 32 720 | 33 677 | 34 633 | 35 590 | 36 548 | 37 493 | 38 434 | 39 375 | | | | | |

D = Rate applicable to staff members with a dependent spouse or child.

S = Rate applicable to staff members with no dependent spouse or child.

[a] This scale will be implemented in conjunction with a consolidation of 5.1 per cent of post adjustment. There will be consequential adjustments in post adjustment indices and multipliers at all duty stations effective 1 March 2001. Thereafter, changes in post adjustment classifications will be implemented on the basis of the movements of the consolidated post adjustment indices.

## RESOLUTION 55/224

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/703, para. 7)[50]

### 55/224. United Nations pension system

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 51/217 of 18 December 1996 and 53/210 of 18 December 1998, and section V of its resolution 54/251 of 23 December 1999,

*Having considered* the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board for 2000 to the General Assembly and to the member organizations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[51] the report of the Secretary-General on the investments of the Fund[52] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[53]

#### I

#### Actuarial matters

*Recalling* section I of its resolution 53/210,

*Having considered* the results of the valuation of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund as at 31 December 1999 and the observations thereon of the Consulting Actuary of the Fund, the Committee of Actuaries and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board,[54]

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the improvement in the actuarial situation of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, from an actuarial surplus of 0.36 per cent of pensionable remuneration as at 31 December 1997 to an actuarial surplus of 4.25 per cent of pensionable remuneration as at 31 December 1999, and, in particular, of the opinions provided by the Consulting Actuary and the Committee of Actuaries, as reproduced in annexes IV and V, respectively, to the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board;[51]

2. *Takes note* of the decision of the Board, in accordance with article 11 (*a*) of the Regulations of the Fund, to lower the interest rate used to determine lump-sum commutations, from the current 6.5 per cent to 6 per cent, with respect to contributory service performed as from 1 January 2001;

3. *Takes note also* that the Board has established a working group to undertake a fundamental review of the benefit provisions of the Fund, taking into account developments in staffing and remuneration policies in the member organizations and in pension arrangements at the national and international levels, and to make proposals to the Standing Committee of the Board in 2001 and subsequently to the Board in 2002, on the future long-term needs of the Fund and its constituent groups, for eventual submission by the Board to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

4. *Takes note further* of the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 8 of its report;[53]

5. *Concurs* with the Transfer Agreement with the World Trade Organization, approved by the Board under article 13 of the Regulations of the Fund, with a view to securing continuity of pension rights between the Fund and the World Trade Organization, as set out in annex VII to the report of the Board;[51]

6. *Takes note* of the intention of the Board and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to pursue a new transfer agreement in the light of the changes made in the pension plan of the Bank and of the interim procedures that will be followed until a new agreement is concluded;

#### II

#### Pension adjustment system

*Recalling* section II of its resolution 53/210,

*Having considered* the reviews carried out by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, as set out in paragraphs 186 to 200 of its report,[51] of various aspects of the pension adjustment system,

1. *Takes note* of the results of the monitoring of the costs/savings of recent modifications of the two-track feature of the pension adjustment system and the intention of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to continue to monitor those costs/savings every two years, on the occasion of the actuarial valuations of the Fund;

2. *Approves* changes in the pension adjustment system, as set out in annex I to the present resolution:

(*a*) To lower the threshold for implementing cost-of-living adjustments of pensions in award from 3 per cent to 2 per cent, with effect from the adjustment due on 1 April 2001;

(*b*) To modify, provisionally, paragraphs 4 and 5 of the provisions of the pension adjustment system, in order to implement Judgement No. 942 of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal, as described in section X, paragraphs 263 to 272, of the report of the Board,[51] pending possible future proposals made by the Board to the General Assembly for changes in the pension adjustment system as regards adjustments of deferred retirement benefits;

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[50] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[51] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 9* (A/55/9).

[52] A/C.5/55/3.

[53] A/55/481.

[54] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 9* (A/55/9), sect. III.A.

## III

### Financial statements of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and report of the Board of Auditors

*Having considered* the financial statements of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund for the biennium ended 31 December 1999, the audit opinion and report of the Board of Auditors thereon, the information provided on the internal audits of the Fund and the observations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board,[51]

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that the report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund for the biennium ended 31 December 1999 indicated that the financial statements presented fairly, in all respects, the financial position of the Fund and that the transactions tested as part of the audit were, in all significant respects, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the United Nations and legislative authority;

2. *Takes note* of the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 13 of its report;[53]

## IV

### Longer-term administrative arrangements of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

*Recalling* section VII of its resolution 51/217, section V of its resolution 52/222, section V of its resolution 53/210 and section V of its resolution 54/251 concerning the administrative arrangements and expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,

*Having considered* section VI of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board,[51] on the longer-term administrative arrangements of the Fund,

1. *Takes note* of the information, set out in paragraphs 117 to 154 of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board,[51] on the strategic plan for the operations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, which addresses computer systems, process re-engineering and technological improvements, the progress report on the enhancement of the role of the Geneva office of the Fund, the delegation of personnel and procurement decisions to the Fund and office space needs;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts under way to effect improvements in the administrative operations of the Fund through greater use of the latest developments in information technology, including electronic exchanges of information between the Fund and its member organizations, as well as with participants and beneficiaries of the Fund, using Internet/Intranet web sites;

3. *Requests* the Standing Committee of the Board, in submitting the budget proposals of the Fund for the biennium 2002–2003 and, if necessary, revised estimates for the current biennium, to provide detailed information on the costs and benefits related to phase I and phase II of the project, including timetables and the prioritizing of the various initiatives;

## V

### Entitlement to survivors' benefits for spouses and former spouses

*Recalling* paragraph 4 of section VIII of its resolution 51/217 and section VI of its resolution 53/210,

*Having considered* the further review undertaken by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board of issues related to the pension entitlements of spouses and former spouses, as set out in paragraphs 155 to 185 of its report,[51]

1. *Approves* the amendment to article 35 bis of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, as set out in annex II to the present resolution, which would extend the provision for a divorced surviving spouse's benefit to divorced spouses of former participants who separated before 1 April 1999 and who meet all the other eligibility conditions in subparagraph (*b*) of article 35 bis;

2. *Also approves* the amendment to article 34 of the Regulations of the Fund, as set out in annex II to the present resolution, which would restore the surviving spouse's benefit that had been eliminated for those who had remarried prior to 1 April 1999, subject to recovery (with interest) of the lump-sum payment made at the time of remarriage;

3. *Further approves* an amendment to article 45 of the Regulations of the Fund, as set out in annex II to the present resolution, which would modify the payment facility approved in resolution 53/210 along the lines set out in paragraphs 172 to 177 of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board;[51]

4. *Approves*, with effect from 1 April 2001, the amendment to article 34 (*b*) of the Regulations of the Fund, as set out in annex II to the present resolution, which would eliminate the partial commutation option for participants electing to receive a deferred retirement benefit for the reasons set out in paragraphs 178 to 183 of the report of the Board;[51]

5. *Takes note* of the responses to the arrangements approved in resolution 53/210 for the optional purchase of surviving spouses' benefits, on cost-neutral terms, in respect of marriage after separation from service;

6. *Requests* the Board to continue to monitor the experience with these issues and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

7. *Also requests* the Board to replace the study of benefits for domestic partnerships, as referred to in paragraphs 184 and 185 of its report,[51] with a study on the existing rules and practices governing entitlements to survivors' pension benefits in international organizations, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

## VI

### Status of the proposed agreement between the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board and the Government of the Russian Federation

*Recalling* section IV of its resolution 51/217 and section III of its resolution 53/210,

*Noting* the information provided by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board in paragraphs 201 to 232 of its report[51] and the additional information contained in official communications from the Government of the Russian Federation to the Chief Executive Officer of the Fund after the fiftieth session of the Board,

1. *Takes note* of the information provided by the Government of the Russian Federation on internal solutions being prepared with a view to addressing the concerns of Russian former participants in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund;

2. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Board in addressing this issue;

## VII

### Other matters

1. *Takes note* of the observations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, as set out in paragraphs 233 to 240 of its report,[51] on the review and conclusions reached by the International Civil Service Commission on the changes in average tax rates at the seven headquarters duty stations which formed the basis for the development of the current common scale of staff assessment for pensionable remuneration;

2. *Also takes note* of the review of the size and composition of the Board and the Standing Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board and, in particular, the provisional allocation of the seat vacated by the former Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization effected upon the termination of its membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund as at 31 December 1998, as described in paragraphs 241 to 252 of the report of the Board;[51]

3. *Notes* that a further review of the size and composition of the Board and the Standing Committee will be undertaken in the first instance by the Standing Committee in 2001 and subsequently by the Board in 2002, addressing the issues set out in paragraph 252 of the report of the Board;[51]

4. *Approves*, with effect from 1 January 2001, an amendment to article 6 of the Regulations of the Fund, as set out in annex II to the present resolution, which would set the terms of office for the elected members and alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee at four years, instead of the current three years;

5. *Also approves*, with effect from 1 January 2001, an amendment to article 14 of the Regulations of the Fund, as set out in annex II to the present resolution, which would set the frequency for audits of the operations of the Fund to be annual and for audit reports on the accounts of the Fund by the Board of Auditors to be submitted to the General Assembly every two years, instead of annually;

6. *Further approves*, with effect from 1 January 2001, an amendment to article 43 of the Regulations of the Fund, as set out in annex II to the present resolution, which would provide for the recovery of indebtedness to the Fund pursuant to observations made by the Board of Auditors and to the comments thereon by the Board, for the reasons given in paragraphs 257 to 262 of the report of the Board;[51]

7. *Takes note* of the consequent amendment that would be made to administrative rule J.9 (*a*) of the Fund, as set out in paragraph 261 of the report of the Board;[51]

## VIII

### Investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[52] as well as the observations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board thereon in its report;[51]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and to the members of the Investments Committee for the investment performances of the Fund, which contributed significantly to the actuarial surplus of the Fund as at 31 December 1999;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore investment possibilities by the Fund in the developing countries, taking into consideration General Assembly resolutions 36/119 A to C of 10 December 1981, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

4. *Takes note* of the observations of the Board of Auditors on the outstanding tax refunds due to the Fund from some Member States in respect of direct taxes imposed on the investment income of the Fund, as set out in paragraphs 20 to 24 of its report, which is reproduced in annex III to the report of the Board;[51]

5. *Urges once again* those Member States which have outstanding balances on foreign tax accounts receivable to provide the reimbursement due to the Fund;

6. *Reiterates its request* to those Member States which do not grant tax exemptions to make all possible efforts to do so as soon as possible.

## Annex I

## Changes in the pension adjustment system of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

1. At the beginning of paragraph 4, after the words "Except as otherwise noted", add the following phrase within parentheses: "(e.g., in paragraphs 5 (*d*), 10 and 27 below with regard to deferred retirement benefits)."

2. In paragraph 5, add the following new subparagraph (*d*):

"(*d*) The cost-of-living differential factor in subparagraph 5 (*b*) (i) above shall not apply to deferred retirement benefits."

3. In paragraph 18, replace the words "3 per cent" with the words "2 per cent".

## Annex II

## Amendments to the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

### Article 6
### Staff pension committees

In paragraph (*b*), replace the words "three years" with the words "four years."

### Article 14
### Annual report and audit

Replace paragraph (*b*) with the following:

"(*b*) There shall be annual audits of the operations of the Fund, in a manner agreed between the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Board. An audit report on the accounts of the Fund shall be made every two years by the United Nations Board of Auditors; a copy of the audit report shall be included in the report under (*a*) above."

### Article 3
### Deferred retirement benefit

Replace paragraph (*c*) with the following:

"(*c*) The benefit may be commuted by the participant into a lump sum if the rate of the benefit at the normal retirement age is less than 300 dollars. Such commutation shall be equivalent to the full actuarial value of the benefit."

### Article 34
### Widow's benefit

1. In paragraph (*b*), delete the following phrase at the end of the paragraph:

", or had commuted a deferred retirement benefit under article 30 (*c*)".

2. Add the following new paragraph (*h*):

"(*h*) Notwithstanding the provisions of (*a*) and (*f*) above, with respect to a surviving spouse who had remarried prior to 1 April 1999 the benefit under (*a*) above shall be payable as from 1 January 2001, subject to recovery (with interest) of the lump sum payment that had been made to that surviving spouse upon remarriage, as provided for in the Regulations then in effect."

### Article 35 bis
### Divorced surviving spouse's benefit

Add the following new paragraph (*e*):

"(*e*) The divorced spouse of a former participant who separated before 1 April 1999 and, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer of the Fund, met all the other eligibility conditions in (*a*) and (*b*) above shall be entitled as from 1 April 1999 to a benefit equal to twice the minimum surviving spouse's benefit under article 34 (*c*), subject to the proviso that the amount of such benefit cannot exceed the amount payable to a surviving spouse of the former participant."

### Article 43
### Recovery of indebtedness to the Fund

Add the following text at the end of the article:

", including interest and costs, where appropriate."

### Article 45
### Non-assignability of rights

Replace the text of article 45 with the following:

"(*a*) A participant or beneficiary may not assign his or her rights under these Regulations. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Fund may, to satisfy a legal obligation on the part of a participant or former participant arising from a marital or parental relationship and evidenced by an order of a court or by a settlement agreement incorporated into a divorce or other court order, remit a portion of a benefit payable by the Fund to such participant for life to one or more former spouses and/or a current spouse from whom the participant or former participant is living apart. Such payment shall not convey to any person a benefit entitlement from the Fund or (except as provided herein) provide any rights under the Regulations of the Fund to such person or increase the total benefits otherwise payable by the Fund.

"(*b*) To be acted upon, the requirement under the court order must be consistent with the Regulations of the Fund, as determined by the Chief Executive Officer of the Fund to be beyond any reasonable doubt, and on the basis of the available evidence. Once implemented, the assignment shall normally be irrevocable; however, a participant or former participant may request, upon satisfactory evidence based on a court order or a provision of a settlement agreement incorporated into a court decree, a new decision by the Chief Executive Officer that would alter or discontinue the payment or payments. Furthermore, such payment or payments shall cease following the death of the participant or former participant. If a designee predeceases the participant or former participant, the payments shall not commence, or if they have commenced, shall cease upon the designee's death. In the event that the payment or payments have been diminished, discontinued, or have failed to commence or have ceased, the amount of the benefit payable to the participant or former participant shall be duly adjusted."

## RESOLUTION 55/225

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/691, para. 7)[55]

### 55/225. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

*The General Assembly*,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,[56] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[57] and the oral statement made by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee to the Fifth Committee on 6 December 2000,[58]

*Recalling* its resolution 47/235 of 14 September 1993 on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which were resolutions 54/239 A of 23 December 1999 and 54/239 B of 15 June 2000,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for 1999[59] and the comments of the Advisory Committee thereon in its report,[57]

*Taking note also* of Security Council resolution 1329 (2000) of 30 November 2000 concerning the establishment of a pool of ad litem judges in the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia,

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[57] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Decides* that the budget of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 shall be biennialized, on an experimental basis, for the period 2002–2003, also decides to keep the matter of the biennialization under review, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the results of the experiment and the impact on the functioning of the Tribunal;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* that the benefits of this provisional reform could include the use of two-year employment contracts at the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia;

4. *Welcomes* recent improvements in the functioning of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and encourages continued efforts to address areas where improvement is needed;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide in his proposed budget, with the involvement of all organs of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, workload data for the budget period so as to give more justification for its resource requirements, and also requests the Secretary-General to include in his budget presentation information on budgetary requirements, including targets for recruitment, training, judicial scheduling and performance standards for support activities;

6. *Welcomes* the actions taken so far to address the issue of dilatory motions and pleadings, which have the effect of lengthening trial proceedings, and encourages the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia to take further measures to improve the monitoring and oversight of defence counsel;

7. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Advisory Committee that judicial activities of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia should have priority over public relations activities and attendance at external meetings;

8. *Decides* to revert, at its resumed fifty-fifth session, to the consideration of resource requirements for the implementation of modifications to the statute of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, without prejudice to the nomination and election of the ad litem judges;

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[55] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[56] A/55/517 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[57] A/55/642.

[58] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Fifth Committee*, 35th meeting (A/C.5/55/SR.35), and corrigendum.

[59] A/55/623.

9. *Decides also* to appropriate to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 a total amount of 108,487,700 United States dollars gross (96,443,900 dollars net) for 2001;

10. *Decides further* that the financing of the appropriation for 2001 under the Special Account shall take into account the unused unencumbered balance of 5,873,600 dollars gross (5,414,300 dollars net) for 1999, interest and miscellaneous income of 3,412,000 dollars recorded for the biennium 1998-1999, the estimated unencumbered balance of 2.5 million dollars gross (2,227,000 dollars net) for 2000 and the estimated income of 77,200 dollars for 2001, which shall be set off against the aggregate amount of the appropriation, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to apportion the amount of 48,312,450 dollars gross (42,695,300 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2001, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000;

12. *Decides also* to apportion the amount of 48,312,450 dollars gross (42,695,300 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2001;

13. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 11 and 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 11,234,300 dollars approved for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for 2001.

## Annex

## Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

| | *Gross* | *Net* |
|---|---|---|
| | *(United States dollars)* | |
| Proposed budget for 2001 (A/55/517 and Corr.1)[a] | 112 464 300 | 100 180 800 |
| Less: | | |
| Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/55/642) | (3 976 600) | (3 736 900) |
| Estimated appropriation | 108 487 700 | 96 443 900 |
| Add: | | |
| Estimated unencumbered balance for 1999 that was taken into account and reduced from the assessment for 2000 (resolutions 54/239 A and B) | 8 200 000 | 8 200 000 |
| Less: | | |
| Actual unencumbered balance for 1999 | (14 073 600) | (13 614 300) |
| Interest and other miscellaneous income for the biennium 1998–1999 as at 31 December 1999 | (3 412 000) | (3 412 000) |
| Estimated unencumbered balance for 2000 | (2 500 000) | (2 227 000) |
| Estimated income for 2001 | (77 200) | |
| Balance to be assessed for 2001 | 96 624 900 | 85 390 600 |
| Including: | | |
| Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2001 | 48 312 450 | 42 695 300 |
| Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2001 | 48 312 450 | 42 695 300 |

[a] The amount does not include provisions sought for ad litem judges (A/55/517/Add.1).

## RESOLUTION 55/226

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/692, para. 7)[60]

### 55/226. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

*The General Assembly*,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994,[61] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[62] and the oral statement made by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee to the Fifth Committee on 6 December 2000,[63]

*Recalling* its resolution 49/251 of 20 July 1995 on the financing of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which were resolutions 54/240 A of 23 December 1999 and 54/240 B of 15 June 2000,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the International Tribunal for Rwanda for 1999[64] and the comments of the Advisory Committee thereon in its report,[62]

*Taking note also* of Security Council resolution 1329 (2000) of 30 November 2000 concerning the election of two judges of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and the assignment of two of the judges elected or appointed in accordance with article 12 of the statute of the International Tribunal for Rwanda to be members of the Appeals Chamber of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[62] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Decides* that the budget of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 shall be biennialized, on an experimental basis, for the period 2002–2003, also decides to keep the matter of the biennialization under review, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the results of the experiment and the impact on the functioning of the Tribunal;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* that the benefits of this provisional reform could include the use of two-year employment contracts at the International Tribunal for Rwanda;

4. *Welcomes* recent improvements in the functioning of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, and encourages continued efforts to address areas where improvement is needed;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide in his proposed budget, with the involvement of all organs of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, workload data for the budget period so as to give more justification for its resource requirements, and also requests the Secretary-General to include in his budget presentation information on budgetary requirements, including targets for recruitment, training, judicial scheduling and performance standards for support activities;

6. *Welcomes* the actions taken so far to address the issue of dilatory motions and pleadings, which have the effect of lengthening trial proceedings, and encourages the International Tribunal for Rwanda to take further measures to improve the monitoring and oversight of defence counsel;

7. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Advisory Committee that the judicial activities of the International Tribunal for Rwanda should have priority over public relations activities and attendance at external meetings;

8. *Also endorses* the recommendation of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 23 of its report,[62] and requests the Secretary-General to undertake a study, with the involvement of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, to indicate whether it is possible to state the likely date or dates for the completion of the mandate of the Tribunal, and to report thereon in the context of the next proposed budget;

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[60] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[61] A/55/512 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[62] A/55/643.

[63] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Fifth Committee*, 35th meeting (A/C.5/55/SR.35), and corrigendum.

[64] A/55/622.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the likely long-term financial obligations of the United Nations with regard to the enforcement of sentences;

10. *Approves* the budgetary recommendations of the Advisory Committee as contained in paragraph 66 of its report[62] and the additional budgetary recommendations of the Advisory Committee arising from Security Council resolution 1329 (2000), as presented orally by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee to the Fifth Committee;[63]

11. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 a total amount of 93,974,800 United States dollars gross (85,607,600 dollars net) for 2001;

12. *Decides also* that the financing of the appropriation for 2001 under the Special Account shall take into account the actual unencumbered balance of 2,937,000 dollars gross (1,988,700 dollars net) as at the end of 1999, and the estimated unencumbered balance of 2 million dollars gross (1,816,000 dollars net) which was taken into account in resolution 54/240 A, as well as the amount of 2,667,000 dollars gross (2,667,000 dollars net), being the interest and other miscellaneous income recorded for the biennium 1998–1999, which shall be set off against the aggregate amount of the appropriation, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

13. *Decides further* that the financing of the appropriation for 2001 under the Special Account shall also take into account an amount of 4,237,100 dollars gross (3,851,900 dollars net), being the estimated unencumbered balance as at the end of 2000, which shall also be set off against the aggregate amount of the appropriation, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to apportion the amount of 43,066,850 dollars gross (39,458,000 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2001, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000;

15. *Decides also* to apportion the amount of 43,066,850 dollars gross (39,458,000 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2001;

16. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 14 and 15 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 7,217,700 dollars approved for the International Tribunal for Rwanda for 2001.

## Annex

### Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

| | *Gross* | *Net* |
|---|---|---|
| | *(United States dollars)* | |
| Proposed budget for 2001 (A/55/512 and Corr.1) | 95 056 600 | 86 616 600 |
| Add: | | |
| Additional requirements arising from Security Council resolution 1329 (2000) (see A/55/512/Add.1) | 654 300 | 628 900 |
| Total proposed budget for 2001 | 95 710 900 | 87 245 500 |
| Less: | | |
| Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/55/643) | (1 536 100) | (1 437 900) |
| Additional Advisory Committee recommendations as presented orally by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee to the Fifth Committee at its 35th meeting on 6 December 2000 | (200 000) | (200 000) |
| Estimated appropriation | 93 974 800 | 85 607 600 |
| Add: | | |
| Estimated unencumbered balance for 1998–1999 that was taken into account and reduced from the assessment for 2000 (see resolution 54/240 A) | 2 000 000 | 1 816 000 |
| Less: | | |
| Actual unencumbered balance for the biennium 1998–1999 as at 31 December 1999 | (2 937 000) | (1 988 700) |
| Interest and other miscellaneous income for 1998–1999 as at 31 December 1999 | (2 667 000) | (2 667 000) |
| Estimated unencumbered balance from the appropriation for 2000 as at the end of 2000 | (4 237 100) | (3 851 900) |
| Balance to be assessed for 2001 | 86 133 700 | 78 916 000 |
| Including: | | |
| Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2001 | 43 066 850 | 39 458 000 |
| Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2001 | 43 066 850 | 39 458 000 |

## RESOLUTION 55/227

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/663, para. 6)[65]

### 55/227. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo[66] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[67]

*Bearing in mind* Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/241 of 28 July 1999 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 54/245 B of 15 June 2000,

*Acknowledging* the complexity of the Mission,

*Reaffirming* that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

*Taking into account* the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations,

*Bearing in mind* the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

*Noting with appreciation* that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission by certain Governments,

*Mindful* of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolution of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo as at 31 October 2000, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 125 million United States dollars, representing 20 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission to the period ending 31 December 2000, notes that some 19 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

5. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with its resolution 52/1 A of 15 October 1997;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[67]

10. *Notes* the increase in the number of high-level posts, and requests the Secretary-General to review this matter and to report thereon in the context of his next budget presentation;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide information, in the context of future budget submissions, on the level of interaction between the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 and the Mission;

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[65] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[66] A/55/477.

[67] A/55/624.

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in future budget submissions information on the guidelines applied to determine the financing through assessed contributions and other sources of income;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

15. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 450 million dollars gross (422,053,500 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, inclusive of the amount of 220 million dollars gross (207,407,400 dollars net) authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/245 B;

16. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amount of 220 million dollars gross (207,407,400 dollars net) already apportioned in accordance with its resolution 54/245 B for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2000, to apportion the additional amount of 230 million dollars gross (214,646,100 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2001 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996, 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and 55/236 of 23 December 2000 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 and 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2001, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000;

17. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 16 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 15,353,900 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2001;

18. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

19. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

20. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

21. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo".

## RESOLUTION 55/228

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/664, para. 7)[68]

### 55/228. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor[69] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[70]

*Bearing in mind* Security Council resolution 1272 (1999) of 25 October 1999 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/246 A of 23 December 1999 on the financing of the Transitional Administration and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 54/246 C of 15 June 2000,

*Reaffirming* that the costs of the Transitional Administration are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Transitional Administration, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

*Taking into account* the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations,

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[68] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[69] A/55/443 and Corr.1–3.

[70] A/55/531.

*Bearing in mind* the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

*Noting with appreciation* that voluntary contributions have been made to the trust fund for the multinational force,

*Also noting with appreciation* that voluntary contributions have been made to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor, and inviting further such contributions to the Fund,

*Mindful* of the fact that it is essential to provide the Transitional Administration with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor as at 31 October 2000, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 149 million United States dollars, representing some 28 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Transitional Administration to the period ending 31 December 2000, notes that some 21 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Transitional Administration in full and on time;

5. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Transitional Administration, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with its resolution 52/1 of 15 October 1997;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[70] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to retain the post of the Chief of Staff to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General at the level of Assistant Secretary-General;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in future budget proposals and pending further guidance by the Advisory Committee, to consider using United Nations Volunteers for the fourteen posts mentioned in paragraph 60 of his report,[69] taking into account the opinion of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 38 of its report, and bearing in mind the need of the Transitional Administration for human rights officers in the light of the evolution of the situation in the territory;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Transitional Administration is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Transitional Administration against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Transitional Administration;

14. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor the amount of 563 million dollars gross (546,051,600 dollars net) for the operation of the Transitional Administration for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, inclusive of the amount of 292,069,000 dollars gross (283,688,500 dollars net) authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/246 C;

15. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement and taking into account the amount of 200 million dollars gross (194,261,300 dollars net) already apportioned in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/246 C for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2000, to apportion the additional amount of 128,416,670 dollars gross (124,268,800 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 2000 to 31 January 2001 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996, 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and 55/236 of 23 December 2000 and its

decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 and 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999, the scale of assessments for the year 2000[71] to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 81.5 million dollars gross (78,764,500 dollars net), which is the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000, and the scale of assessments for the year 2001[72] to be applied against the balance, that is, 46,916,670 dollars gross (45,504,300 dollars net) for the period from 1 to 31 January 2001;

16. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 15 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 4,147,870 dollars approved for the Transitional Administration for the period from 1 July 2000 to 31 January 2001, 2,735,500 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000, and the balance, that is, 1,412,370 dollars, for the period from 1 to 31 January 2001;

17. *Decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion among Member States the amount of 234,583,330 dollars gross (227,521,500 dollars net) for the period from 1 February to 30 June 2001, at a monthly rate of 46,916,666 dollars gross (45,504,300 dollars net), in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2001,[72] subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Transitional Administration beyond 31 January 2001;

18. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 17 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 7,061,830 dollars approved for the Transitional Administration for the period from 1 February to 30 June 2001;

19. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

20. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Transitional Administration;

21. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Transitional Administration in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

22. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor".

## RESOLUTION 55/229

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/534, para. 6)[73]

### 55/229. Review of the rates of reimbursement to the Governments of troop-contributing States

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the rates of reimbursement to the Governments of troop-contributing States[74] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[75]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the rates of reimbursement to the Governments of troop-contributing States and of the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

2. *Decides* to request the post-Phase V Working Group on reform procedures for determining reimbursement of contingent-owned equipment to consider the current methodology underlying the calculations of standard rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing States, including ways to produce timely and more representative data;

3. *Requests* the post-Phase V Working Group to report on the results of the review to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-fifth session through the Advisory Committee.

## RESOLUTION 55/230

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/532, para. 8)[76]

### 55/230. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/16 of 29 October 1999,

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[71] See resolutions 52/215 A and 54/237 A.

[72] See resolution 55/5 B.

[73] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[74] A/54/763.

[75] A/54/859.

[76] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

1. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 1999;[77]

2. *Also takes note* of the programme of work of the Unit for 2000 and the preliminary list of potential reports for 2001 and beyond;[78]

3. *Stresses* the importance of timely consideration of the reports of the Unit by all participating organizations;

4. *Looks forward* to the report requested in paragraph 6 of its resolution 54/16 concerning progress made in the implementation of the system of follow-up to the recommendations of the Unit;

5. *Recognizes* the critical role of legislative bodies, their secretariats and the Unit in the success of the implementation of the system;

6. *Takes note* of paragraphs 19 and 20 of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 1998[79] and reaffirms article 20 of the statute of the Unit and paragraph 182 of General Assembly resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to submit the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the budget proposals made by the Unit as required by the statute;

7. *Invites* the Unit to continue to develop interaction with other United Nations oversight bodies and to intensify relations with the oversight bodies of other participating organizations with a view to achieving better coordination and sharing best practices;

8. *Decides* to consider the annual reports of the Unit on an annual basis.

## RESOLUTION 55/231

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/532/Add.1 and Corr.1, para. 17)[80]

### 55/231. Results-based budgeting

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997 and 53/205 of 18 December 1998,

*Recalling also* the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on results-based budgeting and the related addenda,[81]

*Having also considered* the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[82] on the report of the Secretary-General

*Having further considered* the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the experience of United Nations system organizations with results-based budgeting techniques,[83] as well as the comments of the Secretary-General thereon,[84]

*Bearing in mind* the intergovernmental, multilateral and international character of the United Nations,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986;

2. *Also reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of posts and financial resources, of resource allocation to all sections of the programme budget and of human resources policies, with a view to ensuring full and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;

3. *Further reaffirms* the respective mandates of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in the consideration of the proposed programme budget;

4. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[82] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

5. *Notes* that the measures proposed by the Secretary-General and recommended by the Advisory Committee are intended to provide, in essence, a management tool that should enhance responsibility and accountability in the implementation of programmes and budgets;

6. *Decides* that these measures, as approved by the General Assembly in the present resolution, should be implemented in a gradual and incremental manner, in full compliance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement are directly and clearly linked to the objectives of the programmes

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[77] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/55/34).

[78] See A/54/960.

[79] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/54/34).

[80] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[81] A/54/456 and Add.1-5.

[82] A/55/543.

[83] See A/54/287.

[84] See A/54/287/Add.1.

and in accordance with the different nature of the activities of the programmes, taking into account rules 104.7 (*a*) and 105.4 (*a*) of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and objectives are defined, bearing in mind the direct link between inputs and outputs, and that inputs are commensurate with the needs of programmes, and taking into consideration the international character of the United Nations, the purposes of its Charter and its legislative mandates, as well as the fact that the objectives of the Organization may not be realized in one medium-term plan only;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, in presenting the programme budget, expected accomplishments and, where possible, indicators of achievement are included to measure achievements in the implementation of the programmes of the Organization and not those of individual Member States;

10. *Stresses* in this regard the need for continued improvement in the formulation of objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement with the full involvement of the relevant intergovernmental bodies;

11. *Decides* that the design of programme objectives in the context of the medium-term plan and in the programme budget should be enhanced as a key element of results-based budgeting, in order to reflect in a more accurate manner the mandates, policy objectives, orientation and priorities of the Organization, taking into account regulation 4.2 and rule 104.7 (*e*) of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the definition of terms and guidelines under review and to bring the question of definitions to the attention of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, with a view to obtaining the views and comments of the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system of organizations in order to arrive at an agreed set of key terms and guidelines pertaining to the results-based format of the budget within the United Nations system;

13. *Stresses* that external factors specific to the objectives and expected accomplishments should be identified in the proposed programme budget and that assessment of performance should reflect, and not be distorted by, the impact of unforeseen external factors;

14. *Decides* that significant external factors should also be identified in the context of future medium-term plans in order to illustrate their impact on the achievements obtained by the different programmes;

15. *Also decides* that the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 shall contain input data at the same level of detail as that provided in the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001,[85] in keeping with the responsibility of the Secretary-General to provide complete information in support of the financial aspects of his budget proposals;

16. *Notes* the observation of the Advisory Committee, in paragraph 16 of its report,[82] that the Secretary-General already enjoys delegation of authority in programme delivery, in particular in the transfer of resources within sections of the budget;

17. *Decides* that any transfer of resources between post and non-post objects of expenditure would require the prior approval of the General Assembly;

18. *Stresses* that the use of indicators of achievement in the proposed programme budget and assessment of the performance of the Organization in terms of all the expected accomplishments should not constitute a method by which to adjust the level of approved resources, or of staff, and that requested resources should continue to be justified in terms of the requirements of output delivery;

19. *Emphasizes* that resources proposed by the Secretary-General should be commensurate with all mandated programmes and activities to ensure their full, effective and efficient implementation;

20. *Notes* that, in order to implement the present resolution, no revisions to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations or to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation are currently required, and, in this regard, also notes that the application of rule 105.6 (*a*) of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning should continue to reflect the understanding that approval of the medium-term plan and the programme budget constitutes the reaffirmation of mandates reflected therein;

21. *Recognizes* the difficulty of achieving the results of complex and long-standing political activities within specific time frames;

22. *Reaffirms* that, in accordance with rule 104.7 (*b*) of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, when an objective for Secretariat action cannot be achieved by the end of the plan period, both this longer-term objective and more specific objectives to be achieved within the plan period shall be set;

23. *Emphasizes* the need for the Secretariat to continue to improve its programme evaluation capacity, in order to implement fully the Regulations and Rules Governing

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[85] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1), vols. I–III; ibid., *Supplement No. 6A* (A/54/6/Rev.1/Add.1); and ibid., *Supplement No. 6B* (A/54/6/Rev.1/Add.2).

Programme Planning by, inter alia, strengthening standard evaluation methodologies in accordance with article VII of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning;

24. *Stresses* that any proposals for additional flexibility in managing inputs during budget implementation, if approved by the General Assembly, should always be accompanied by increased accountability;

25. *Also stresses* that flexibility in terms of the use of resources should be exercised with strict respect for the norms and decisions established by the General Assembly and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, in particular in regard to the limits imposed by the General Assembly in the allocation of resources for every section, the staffing table and the rules and procedures for personnel matters;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake a detailed analysis of the information, management control and evaluation systems required to implement the proposals contained in his report,[81] and of the capacity and limitations of existing systems, and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee, at the time of submitting his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

27. *Stresses* that the intention of the Secretary-General to focus the evaluation of programme delivery on expected accomplishments should be implemented in a manner that is flexible and complementary to the existing evaluation system;

28. *Invites* the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to develop on a continuous basis and to implement an adequate training programme to ensure that staff, as appropriate, are proficient in the concepts and techniques, including the formulation of expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement, as described in his report.

## RESOLUTION 55/232

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/532/Add.1 and Corr.1, para. 17)[86]

### 55/232. Outsourcing practices

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 54/256 of 7 April 2000,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on outsourcing practices[87] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[88]

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that programme managers are guided by the following four basic reasons for outsourcing:

(*a*) To acquire technical skills not readily available within the Organization, including accessing state-of-the-art technologies and expertise or acquiring needed flexibility to meet quickly changing circumstances;

(*b*) To achieve cost savings;

(*c*) To provide a source more effectively, efficiently or expeditiously;

(*d*) To provide an activity or service not needed on a long-term basis;

2. *Affirms* that at least the following three significant goals must be considered with regard to the use of outsourcing by the United Nations:

(*a*) To respect the international character of the Organization;

(*b*) To avoid a possible negative impact on staff;

(*c*) To ensure appropriate management and/or control over the activities or services that have been outsourced;

3. *Affirms also* the firm commitment of the United Nations to provide fair treatment on as wide a geographical basis as possible to all participants involved in United Nations procurement activities, including outsourcing;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider outsourcing actively in accordance with the guidance and goals mentioned above and to ensure that programme managers satisfy all of the following criteria in their assessment of whether or not an activity of the Organization could be fully, or even partially, outsourced:

(*a*) Cost-effectiveness and efficiency: this is considered to be the most basic criterion; unless it can be adequately demonstrated that an activity can be done significantly more economically and, at the very least, equally efficiently, by an external party, outsourcing may not be considered;

(*b*) Safety and security: activities that could compromise the safety and security of delegations, staff and visitors may not be considered for outsourcing;

(*c*) Maintaining the international character of the Organization: outsourcing may be considered for activities where the international character of the Organization is not compromised;

(*d*) Maintaining the integrity of procedures and processes: outsourcing may not be considered if it will result in any breach of established procedures and processes;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the following:

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[86] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[87] A/55/301.

[88] A/55/479.

(*a*) Progress achieved with regard to the implementation of the provisions of the present resolution, including information on the location and type of outsourced activities and the reason therefor;

(*b*) The activities outsourced during the years 1999–2000, by providing similar detailed information as mentioned in paragraph 5 (*a*) of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* the Joint Inspection Unit to conduct a management audit review of outsourcing in the United Nations and the United Nations funds and programmes in accordance with existing practice and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

## RESOLUTION 55/233

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/532/Add.1 and Corr.1, para. 17)[89]

### 55/233. Proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2002–2003

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 in which it, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to submit in off-budget years an outline of the proposed programme budget for the following biennium,

*Reaffirming also* section VI of its resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/214 of 18 December 1998,

*Reaffirming* rule 153 of its rules of procedure,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2002–2003,[90] the related recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[91] and the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[92]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[93] and the report and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[92]

2. *Reaffirms* that the proposed programme budget outline shall contain an indication of the following:

(*a*) Preliminary estimate of resources to accommodate the proposed programme of activities during the biennium;

(*b*) Priorities reflecting general trends of a broad sectoral nature;

(*c*) Real growth, positive or negative, compared with the previous budget;

(*d*) Size of the contingency fund expressed as a percentage of the overall level of resources;

3. *Also reaffirms* that the budget outline should provide a greater level of predictability of resources required for the following biennium, promote greater involvement of Member States in the budgetary process and thereby facilitate the broadest possible agreement on the programme budget;

4. *Notes* that the budget outline is a preliminary estimate of resources;

5. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Advisory Committee contained in paragraph 8 of its report,[92] that provision should be made in the budget outline for expenditures for special political missions related to peace and security expected to be extended or approved in the course of the biennium;

6. *Decides* that the preliminary estimate of resources for the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 should therefore include a provision for special political missions, in the amount of 93.7 million United States dollars at revised 2000–2001 rates, which should be reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, and that additional requirements shall continue to be treated in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/213;

7. *Notes* that the preliminary estimates of the Secretary-General for the proposed programme budget did not include provision for the requirements for the biennium 2002–2003 for the implementation of the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations,[94] that those requirements remain under discussion by the General Assembly and that the requirements pertinent to the regular budget should be reflected in the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, subject to approval by the Assembly;

8. *Notes also* that the preliminary estimates of the Secretary-General for the proposed programme budget did not include provision for the requirements for the biennium 2002–2003 for safety and security of personnel, that those requirements remain under discussion by the General

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[89] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[90] A/55/186.

[91] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/55/16), part two, chap. II, paras. 50–70.

[92] A/55/685 and Corr.1.

[93] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/55/16).

[94] See A/55/305-S/2000/809.

Assembly, and that the requirements pertinent to the regular budget should be reflected in the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, subject to approval by the Assembly;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General to prepare his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 on the basis of a total preliminary estimate of 2,515.3 million dollars at revised 2000–2001 rates;

10. *Decides* that the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 shall contain provisions for recosting on the basis of the existing methodology;

11. *Decides also* that the priorities for the biennium 2002–2003 are the following:

(*a*) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(*b*) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences;

(*c*) Development of Africa;

(*d*) Promotion of human rights;

(*e*) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(*f*) Promotion of justice and international law;

(*g*) Disarmament;

(*h*) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, having considered his preliminary indicative estimates contained in the proposed budget outline, when presenting the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, to reflect the priorities as outlined in paragraph 11 above;

13. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to submit, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, the total amount of resources that he should have at his disposal, from all sources of financing, in order to implement fully all mandated programmes and activities;

14. *Decides* that the contingency fund shall be set at the level of 0.75 per cent of the preliminary estimate, namely at 18.9 million dollars, and that this amount is in addition to the overall level of the preliminary estimate and is to be used in accordance with the procedures for the use and operation of the contingency fund.

## RESOLUTION 55/234

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/710, para. 8)[95]

## 55/234. Programme planning

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 38/227 A of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 51/219 of 18 December 1996,

*Having examined* the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005,[96]

*Having considered* the views expressed by Member States in the context of the review by the Main Committees of the General Assembly of the relevant programmes of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005,[97]

*Having also considered* the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its fortieth session,[98]

*Having further considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998–1999,[99] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives,[100] the report of the Secretary-General on ways in which the full implementation and the quality of mandated programmes and activities could be ensured and could be better assessed by and reported to Member States,[101] as well as the report of the Secretary-General on the impact of the format of the medium-term plan on the programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation cycle,[102]

### I

### Medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005

1. *Reaffirms* that the medium-term plan is the principal policy directive of the United Nations and shall serve as the framework for the next biennial programme budget;

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[95] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[96] A/55/6 (Introduction) and A/55/6 (Prog. 1–25).

[97] A/C.5/55/17-A/C.5/55/20 and Add.1.

[98] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/55/16).

[99] A/55/73.

[100] A/55/63.

[101] A/55/85.

[102] A/C.5/55/14.

2. *Also reaffirms* the importance of ensuring that the medium-term plan reflects all mandated programmes and activities;

3. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that all legislative mandates are accurately translated into programmes;

4. *Also stresses* the need to continue considering the impact of the new format of the medium-term plan for 2002–2005 on the rest of the cycle;

5. *Notes* that some of the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-ninth session, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/236 of 23 December 1999, regarding revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation had not been fully reflected in the Secretary-General's bulletin containing the revised edition[103] of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, in presenting the medium-term plan, expected accomplishments and, where possible, indicators of achievement are included to measure achievements in the implementation of the programmes of the Organization, not those of individual Member States;

7. *Stresses* that the Secretary-General, in formulating the strategy components of future medium-term plans, should clearly present the approach that will be taken, the type of activities to be carried out and the course of action proposed to achieve the objective desired and to ensure that in subsequent programme budgets planned activities are programmed and reflected in the outputs to be produced;

8. *Adopts* the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005,[96] together with the relevant recommendations of the Committee and the additional conclusions and recommendations contained in the annex to the present resolution;

## II

### Programme performance report

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998–1999;[99]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[104] regarding the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998–1999;

3. *Takes note* of the recommendations of the Committee[105] on the report of the Secretary-General on ways in which the full implementation and the quality of mandated programmes and activities could be ensured and could be better assessed by and reported to Member States;[101]

4. *Recognizes* the need for clear statements of objectives, expected accomplishments and corresponding indicators of achievement in future medium-term plans and programme budgets in order to ensure better assessment of the implementation of programmes in the context of the biennial programme performance reports, in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning;

## III

### Other conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

*Endorses* all other conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its fortieth session.

## Annex

### Conclusions and recommendations on the proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005

Programme 19 should read as follows:

### Programme 19
### Human rights

#### Overall orientation

19.1 The purpose of the United Nations human rights programme is to promote universal enjoyment of all human rights by giving practical effect to the will and resolve of the world community as expressed by the United Nations. Its mandate derives from Articles 1, 13 and 55 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993[106] and subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/121 of 20 December 1993, the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights as defined in Assembly resolution 48/141 of the same date, international human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations and the resolutions and decisions of policy-making bodies. The programme is based on the principles and recommendations of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

19.2 The programme is under the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, who performs her or his functions under the direction and authority of the Secretary-General in accordance with resolution 48/141. Its objectives are to provide the leading role on human rights issues and to emphasize the importance of human rights on the international and national agendas; to promote international cooperation for human rights; to stimulate and coordinate action across the whole United Nations system; to promote universal ratification and implementation of international standards and to assist in the development of new norms; to support human rights organs and treaty-monitoring bodies; to anticipate serious violations and react to violations; to emphasize preventive human rights action and to promote the establishment of national human rights infrastructures; to undertake human rights field activities and operations; and to provide education, information, advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights.

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[103] ST/SGB/2000/8.

[104] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/55/16), part two, chap. II, paras. 21 and 22.

[105] Ibid., para. 30.

[106] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

19.3 By the end of the period covered by the present medium-term plan, it is expected that the following will have been accomplished:

(*a*) A significant enhancement and strengthening of international cooperation in the field of human rights leading to increased effectiveness of international machinery, improved respect for human rights at the national level, through, inter alia, universal ratification of all international human rights treaties, the incorporation of those standards into the domestic legislation of States and the continuing adaptation of the United Nations human rights machinery to current and future needs in the promotion and protection of human rights, as reflected in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

(*b*) Major strengthening of coordination for human rights across the United Nations system, leading to a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of human rights based on the contribution of each of the United Nations organs, bodies and specialized agencies whose activities deal with human rights and on improved inter-agency cooperation and coordination;

(*c*) The adoption and implementation of an integrated and multidimensional strategy for the promotion and protection of the right to development, accompanied by a significant enhancement of support from relevant United Nations bodies for that purpose;

(*d*) Provision of the appropriate assistance by the Secretariat and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to ensure that the promotion and protection of all human rights are guided by the principles of impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, in the spirit of constructive international dialogue and cooperation;

(*e*) Compliance by the Office of the High Commissioner with the paramount consideration of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, and with due regard to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible, bearing in mind that the principle of equitable geographical distribution is compatible with the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity;

(*f*) A significant increase in the recognition of economic, social and cultural rights and in activities for their protection, including the integration of economic, social and cultural rights as human rights into the strategies and programmes of international organizations, agencies and financial and developmental institutions, the identification of measures of achievement showing success in respecting those rights and the adoption of a communication procedure relating to non-compliance with economic, social and cultural rights;

(*g*) The adoption and progressive implementation of an improved treaty-monitoring system dealing with multiple reporting obligations and based on a comprehensive national approach;

(*h*) The implementation of a strengthened system of special procedures based on harmonization and rationalization of work;

(*i*) The reinforcement of the United Nations as the unique worldwide forum for the discussion and resolution of human rights matters of international concern, with the participation of all relevant actors;

(*j*) The adoption of more efficient methods within the United Nations to promote and protect human rights, including by preventing human rights violations throughout the world and removing obstacles to the full realization of human rights;

(*k*) The implementation of a comprehensive United Nations programme to assist States, at their request, in developing and implementing national human rights plans of action strengthening, inter alia, national structures having an impact on democracy and the rule of law; to establish national institutions to give effect to the right to development and economic, social and cultural rights; and to assist States, at their request, within the respective mandates of the Secretariat and the Office of the High Commissioner, in the process of ratifying United Nations human rights instruments;

(*l*) Fulfilment of the mandates given to the Secretariat for giving appropriate assistance, according to the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, to treaty bodies, intergovernmental and expert bodies, as well as the existing relevant voluntary trust funds;

(*m*) The full integration of the human rights of women and the girl child into the activities of the United Nations system as a whole and its human rights machinery in particular;

(*n*) The implementation of effective measures to promote equality, dignity and tolerance, to fight racism and xenophobia and to protect minorities, indigenous populations, migrant workers, the disabled and others, taking into account also the outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in 2001;

(*o*) The establishment of effective programmes of education and public information and the strengthened contribution of non-governmental organizations, national institutions, grass-roots organizations and civil society in United Nations human rights activities at all levels, according to the legislative mandates in effect regarding these issues;

(*p*) The provision to States, United Nations bodies, experts and the academic community of high-quality research and analysis on human rights issues, including that dealing with emerging problems and the development of new standards and instruments.

### Subprogramme 1
### Right to development, research and analysis

#### Objectives and strategy

19.4 The primary objectives of this subprogramme will include the promotion and protection of the right to development. In this regard, the objectives will be to develop an integrated and multidimensional strategy for the implementation, coordination and promotion of the right to development in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development[107] and subsequent mandates and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, aimed at facilitating action to be taken by relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including treaty bodies, international development and financial institutions and non-governmental organizations, for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of fundamental human rights, ensuring the realization of the right to development across the human rights programme and by specialized agencies and United Nations treaty bodies; to promote national implementation of the right to development through coordination with State-appointed officials; to identify obstacles at the national and international levels; and to promote awareness about the content and importance of the right to development, including through information and educational activities.

19.5 With regard to research and analysis, the objectives will be to strengthen respect for human rights by increasing knowledge, awareness and understanding of human rights issues through data collection, research and analysis. These objectives will be pursued within the framework of the indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights and will be aimed at facilitating the implementation of standards, the work of treaty bodies, special rapporteurs and other bodies and the preparation of new standards; ensuring the recognition on the national and international levels of economic, social and cultural rights; promoting democracy and strengthening national human rights institutions and procedures for the rule of law; contributing to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and new forms of discrimination; and strengthening the recognition of the human rights of women and children and the protection of vulnerable groups such as minorities, migrant workers and indigenous people.

#### Expected accomplishments

19.6 Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat would include:

(*a*) Wider integration and/or inclusion of the promotion and protection of the right to development, in particular across the human rights programme and the relevant programmes of work of the United Nations departments and/or offices and specialized agencies and of major international organizations and forums related to this issue;

(*b*) Major strengthening of coordination for human rights across the United Nations system, leading to a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of human rights based on the contribution of each of the United Nations organs, bodies and specialized agencies whose activities deal with human rights and also based on improved inter-agency cooperation and coordination;

(*c*) Strengthened efforts which will contribute to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(*d*) Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of all human rights, including the right to development;

(*e*) Wider recognition of the rights of women, children and persons belonging to minorities, migrant workers, indigenous people and persons with disabilities, and strengthening the protection of vulnerable groups.

#### Measurements of achievement

19.7 Measures of achievement are elements used as tools for determining, where possible, the extent to which the objectives and/or expected accomplishments have been achieved.

19.8 Measures of achievement of the Secretariat would include:

(*a*) The extent to which the right to development had been included in the work programmes of the departments and offices of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, providing compiled examples of concrete steps in that regard;

(*b*) The extent to which the mandates given to the Secretariat contained in resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, had been fulfilled;

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[107] Resolution 41/128, annex.

(*c*) The holding of seminars and workshops organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, or in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, and the extent to which they contributed to the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme;

(*d*) The extent to which the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner contributed to increasing knowledge, awareness and understanding in order to advance the full realization of the right to development, in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development;

(*e*) Increased number of visitors to the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner;

(*f*) The number of new publications of the Office of the High Commissioner as well as their distribution, and the assessment by users of their quality and usefulness.

## Subprogramme 2
## Supporting human rights bodies and organs

### Objectives and strategy

19.9 The objectives are to support the United Nations human rights bodies and organs and to facilitate their deliberations by ensuring and enhancing their effective functioning; to contribute to increasing the knowledge, expanding the awareness and promoting the importance of all international human rights treaties; to improve existing procedures through rationalization and streamlining, and the coordination of the participation of Governments, experts, specialized agencies, other international organizations, national institutions and non-governmental organizations in their work; and to ensure the analytical capacity of human rights treaty bodies for the review of State party reports under international treaties and for the processing of communications.

### Expected accomplishments

19.10 Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat would include:

(*a*) The timely delivery of required and appropriate support to intergovernmental bodies, expert bodies and treaty bodies, inter alia, in order to contribute to reducing the backlog in the consideration by the reviewing mechanisms of the States parties' reports;

(*b*) The timely delivery of required and appropriate support to intergovernmental bodies, expert bodies and treaty bodies, inter alia, in order to contribute to reducing the backlog in the consideration by the reviewing mechanisms of complaints.

### Measurements of achievement

19.11 Measures of achievement are elements used as tools for determining, where possible, the extent to which the objectives and/or expected accomplishments have been achieved.

19.12 Measures of achievement of the Secretariat would include:

(*a*) The quality and timeliness of services provided by the Office of the High Commissioner;

(*b*) A reduction in the time lag between the submission of a State party report and its examination by the relevant treaty body;

(*c*) A reduction in the time lag between the submission of a complaint and its review, as appropriate, by the relevant mechanisms;

(*d*) The number of reports prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, and the extent to which they were presented in a timely manner, in compliance with the six-week rule for the issuance of documentation, for consideration by organs dealing with human rights.

## Subprogramme 3
## Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities

### Objectives and strategy

19.13 In the area of advisory services and technical cooperation, the objectives are to assist countries, at their request, in developing comprehensive national plans of action to promote and protect human rights and to provide advice and support to specific projects to promote respect for human rights; to develop a comprehensive and coordinated United Nations programme to help States in building and strengthening national structures for human rights promotion and protection; and to raise awareness and promote specialized knowledge about human rights through the organization of training courses, seminars and workshops, and the production of a wide range of educational, training and information material.

19.14 In the area of support to fact-finding bodies, the objectives are to ensure the effective functioning of human rights monitoring mechanisms by assisting special rapporteurs and representatives, experts and working groups mandated by policy-making bodies, including through the preparation of information regarding alleged violations and situations for review and the provision of support for missions and meetings; and to enhance the efficiency of action by policy-making bodies by providing analytical information on human rights situations.

19.15 With respect to field activities, the objective is to ensure the efficiency of field missions and presences through the maintenance of contacts with Governments, appropriate sectors of the United Nations system, international and regional organizations and others by supporting and developing such activities through the development of training programmes and materials for human rights field staff and training in human rights for the appropriate components of other United Nations field operations.

### Expected accomplishments

19.16 Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat would include:

(*a*) Provision of advisory services and technical and financial assistance, at the request of the State concerned and, where appropriate, the regional human rights organizations, with a view to supporting actions and programmes in the field of human rights;

(*b*) Fulfilment of the mandates given to the Office of the High Commissioner in resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights to support human rights monitoring mechanisms, such as special rapporteurs/representatives and expert and working groups mandated by policy-making bodies;

(*c*) Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of all human rights, including the right to development.

### Measurements of achievement

19.17 Measures of achievement are elements used as tools for determining, where possible, the extent to which the objectives and/or expected accomplishments have been achieved.

19.18 Measures of achievement of the Secretariat would include:

(*a*) The number of seminars, workshops and training courses held or supported by the Office of the High Commissioner; and the number of persons trained, participants in seminars and workshops and fellowships granted, as well as data on their geographical distribution, and the extent to which they contributed to the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme;

(*b*) The number of requests from Member States and, where appropriate, from the regional human rights organizations, received and fulfilled by the Office of the High Commissioner for the provision of advisory services and technical and financial assistance, with a view to supporting actions and programmes in the field of human rights;

(*c*) The timeliness, significance and relevance of the advisory services and technical cooperation.

### Legislative mandates

### Programme 19
### Human rights

### General Assembly resolutions

| | |
|---|---|
| 48/121 | World Conference on Human Rights |
| 48/141 | High Commissioner for the promotion and protection of all human rights |
| 53/166 | Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (Subprogrammes 1 and 2) |
| 54/138 | Violence against women migrant workers (Subprogrammes 1 and 2) |
| 54/168 | Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes (Subprogrammes 1 and 3) |
| 54/169 | Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification (Subprogrammes 1 and 2) |
| 54/173 | Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization (Subprogrammes 1 and 3) |
| 54/174 | Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity |
| 55/96 | Promoting and consolidating democracy |
| 55/101 | Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of humanitarian character |
| 55/102 | Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights |
| 55/107 | Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order |

### Economic and Social Council resolution

| | |
|---|---|
| 2000/22 | Establishment of a Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues |

**Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions**

Agreed conclusions 1998/2 on the coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

**Commission on Human Rights resolutions**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1994/95 | World Conference on Human Rights (Subprogrammes 1 and 2) |
| 2000/73 | Composition of the staff of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights |

### Subprogramme 1
### Right to development, research and analysis

**General Assembly resolutions**

| | |
|---|---|
| 41/128 | Declaration on the Right to Development |
| 53/142 | Strengthening of the rule of law |
| 53/146 | Human rights and extreme poverty |
| 54/133 | Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls |
| 54/134 | International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women |
| 54/135 | Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas |
| 54/137 | Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women |
| 54/141 | Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action |
| 54/148 | The girl child |
| 54/149 | The rights of the child |
| 54/150 | International Decade of the World's Indigenous People |
| 54/153 | Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance |
| 54/154 | Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the convening of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance |
| 54/155 | Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination |
| 54/159 | Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance |
| 54/160 | Human rights and cultural diversity |
| 54/162 | Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities |
| 54/163 | Human rights in the administration of justice |
| 54/164 | Human rights and terrorism |
| 54/167 | Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons |
| 54/172 | Human rights and unilateral coercive measures |
| 54/175 | The right to development |
| 54/181 | Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights |
| 55/66 | Working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour |
| 55/68 | Elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" |
| 55/86 | Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination |
| 55/89 | Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment |
| 55/92 | Protection of migrants |
| 55/98 | Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms |
| 55/102 | Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights |
| 55/103 | Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances |
| 55/111 | Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions |

**Economic and Social Council decision**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1999/12 | Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance |

**Commission on Human Rights resolutions**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1999/22 | Effects on the full enjoyment of human rights of the economic adjustment policies arising from foreign debt and, in particular, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development |
| 1999/25 | Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the |

| | |
|---|---|
| | Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems which the developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights |
| 1999/34 | Impunity |
| 1999/40 | Traffic in women and girls |
| 1999/46 | Contemporary forms of slavery |
| 1999/61 | Question of the death penalty |
| 1999/65 | Fundamental standards of humanity |
| 2000/10 | The right to food |
| 2000/36 | Question of arbitrary detention |
| 2000/38 | The right to freedom of opinion and expression |
| 2000/46 | Integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system |
| 2000/61 | Human rights defenders |
| 2000/62 | Promotion of the right to a democratic and equitable international order |
| 2000/82 | Effects of structural adjustment policies and foreign debt on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights |

### Subprogramme 2
### Supporting human rights bodies and organs

#### General Assembly resolutions

| | |
|---|---|
| 2106 A (XX) | International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination |
| 2200 (XXI) | International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights |
| 39/46 | Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment |
| 44/25 | Convention on the Rights of the Child |
| 53/138 | Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights |
| 54/157 | International Covenants on Human Rights |
| 55/88 | International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families |

#### Economic and Social Council resolutions and decision

| | |
|---|---|
| 1503 (XLVIII) | Procedure for dealing with communications relating to violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms |
| 1979/36 | Further promotion and encouragement of human rights and fundamental freedoms |
| 1990/48 | Enlargement of the Commission on Human Rights and the further promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms |
| 1999/256 | Rationalization of the work of the Commission on Human Rights |

#### Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

Agreed conclusions 1998/2 on the coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

#### Commission on Human Rights resolutions

| | |
|---|---|
| 2000/22 | Cooperation with representatives of United Nations human rights bodies |
| 2000/46 | Integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system |

### Subprogramme 3
### Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities

#### General Assembly resolutions

| | |
|---|---|
| 926 (X) | Advisory services in the field of human rights |
| 53/148 | Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights |
| 54/151 | Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination |
| 54/161 | United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights |
| 54/176 | National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights |
| 54/180 | Human rights and mass exoduses |

#### Economic and Social Council resolution

| | |
|---|---|
| 1235 (XLII) | Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including policies of |

| | |
|---|---|
| | racial discrimination and segregation and of apartheid in all countries, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories |

**Commission on Human Rights resolutions**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1995/53 | Advisory services and the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights |
| 1998/74 | Human rights and thematic procedures |

## RESOLUTION 55/235

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/712, para. 10)[108]

### 55/235. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations

*The General Assembly,*

I

*Reaffirming* the principles set out in its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963 and 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973,

1. *Reaffirms* the following general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations:

(*a*) The financing of such operations is the collective responsibility of all States Members of the United Nations and, accordingly, the costs of peacekeeping operations are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations;

(*b*) In order to meet the expenditures caused by such operations, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures under the regular budget of the United Nations;

(*c*) Whereas the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions to peacekeeping operations, the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards peacekeeping operations involving heavy expenditures;

(*d*) The special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council for the maintenance of peace and security should be borne in mind in connection with their contributions to the financing of peace and security operations;

(*e*) Where circumstances warrant, the General Assembly should give special consideration to the situation of any Member States which are victims of, and those which are otherwise involved in, the events or actions leading to a peacekeeping operation;

2. *Recognizes* the need to reform the current methodology for apportioning the expenses of peacekeeping operations;

3. *Notes with appreciation* voluntary contributions made to peacekeeping operations and, without prejudice to the principle of collective responsibility, invites Member States to consider making such contributions;

II

4. *Decides* that assessment rates for the financing of peacekeeping operations should be based on the scale of assessments for the regular budget of the United Nations, with an appropriate and transparent system of adjustments based on levels of Member States, consistent with the principles outlined above;

5. *Decides also* that the permanent members of the Security Council should form a separate level and that, consistent with their special responsibilities for the maintenance of peace and security, they should be assessed at a higher rate than for the regular budget;

6. *Decides further* that all discounts resulting from adjustments to the regular budget assessment rates of Member States in levels C through J shall be borne on a pro rata basis by the permanent members of the Security Council;

7. *Decides* that the least developed countries should be placed in a separate level and receive the highest rate of discount available under the scale;

8. *Decides also* that the statistical data used for setting the rates of assessment for peacekeeping should be the same as the data used in preparing the regular budget scale of assessments, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

9. *Decides further* to create levels of discount to facilitate automatic, predictable movement between categories on the basis of the per capita gross national product of Member States;

10. *Decides* that, as from 1 July 2001, the rates of assessment for peacekeeping should be based on the ten levels of contribution and parameters set forth in the table below:

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[108] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

**Peacekeeping scale levels based on average per capita gross national product (PCGNP) of all Member States**

| *Level* | *Threshold* | *Thresholds in United States dollars (2001–2003)* | *Target discount (Percentage)* | *Transition period for new contributors (2001–2003 scale)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | Permanent members of the Security Council | | Premium | |
| B | All Member States (except level A contributors) | N/A | 0 | 3 years |
| C | N/A | N/A | 7.5 | 3 years |
| D | Below 2X average PCGNP of all Member States (except level A contributors) | Under 9 594 | 20 | 3 years |
| E | Below 1.8X average PCGNP of all Member States (except level A contributors) | Under 8 634 | 40 | 2 years |
| F | Below 1.6X average PCGNP of all Member States (except level A contributors) | Under 7 675 | 60 | N/A |
| G | Below 1.4X average PCGNP of all Member States (except level A contributors) | Under 6 715 | 70 | N/A |
| H | Below 1.2X average PCGNP of all Member States (except level A contributors) | Under 5 756 | 80 (or 70 on a voluntary basis) | N/A |
| I | Below average PCGNP of all Member States | Under 4 797 | 80 | N/A |
| J | Least developed countries (except level A contributors) | | 90 | N/A |

11. *Decides also* that Member States will be assigned to the lowest level of contribution with the highest discount for which they are eligible, unless they indicate a decision to move to a higher level;

12. *Decides further* that for purposes of determining the eligibility of Member States for contribution in particular levels during the 2001–2003 scale period, the average per capita gross national product of all Member States will be 4,797 United States dollars and the per capita gross national product of Member States will be the average of 1993 to 1998 figures;

13. *Decides* that transitions as specified above will occur in equal increments over the transition period as designated above;

14. *Decides also* that after 2001–2003, transition periods of two years will apply to countries moving up by two levels, and that transition periods of three years will apply to countries moving up by three levels or more without prejudice to paragraph 11 above;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the composition of the levels described above on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, in accordance with the criteria established above, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

16. *Decides* that the structure of levels to be implemented from 1 July 2001 shall be reviewed after nine years;

17. *Decides also* that Member States may agree upon adjustments to their assessment rates under the ad hoc scale in the light of the special transitional circumstances applying during the period 1 January to 30 June 2001;

## III

18. *Decides* that, as an ad hoc arrangement until 30 June 2001, in respect of the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by subsequent relevant resolutions and decisions, for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, Tuvalu should be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*d*) of resolution 43/232 and that its contributions to peacekeeping operations should be calculated in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions adopted and to be adopted by the General Assembly regarding the scale of assessments;

19. *Decides also* that, as an ad hoc arrangement until 30 June 2001, in respect of the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232, as adjusted by subsequent relevant resolutions and decisions, for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia should be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*c*) of resolution 43/232 and that its contributions to peacekeeping operations should be calculated in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions adopted and to be adopted by the General Assembly regarding the scale of assessments;

20. *Decides further* that, as an ad hoc arrangement until 30 June 2001, in respect of the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232, as adjusted by subsequent relevant resolutions and decisions, for the

apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, as from 1 January 2001, South Africa should be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*c*) of resolution 43/232 and that its contributions to peacekeeping operations should be calculated in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions adopted and to be adopted by the General Assembly regarding the scale of assessments;

21. *Decides* that, as an ad hoc arrangement until 30 June 2001, in respect of the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232, as adjusted by subsequent relevant resolutions and decisions, for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, as from 1 January 2001, Cambodia should be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*d*) of resolution 43/232 and that its contributions to peacekeeping operations should be calculated in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions adopted and to be adopted by the General Assembly regarding the scale of assessments;

22. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to assess the share of the Republic of Korea, which currently belongs to Group C, in the costs of peacekeeping operations in the following manner: 36 per cent of the regular budget assessment beginning on 1 July 2001, 52 per cent in 2002, 68 per cent in 2003, 84 per cent in 2004 and 100 per cent in 2005.

### Annex

### Assignment of contribution levels for 2001-2003

**Level A**

Permanent members of the Security Council: China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

**Level B**

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden

**Level C**

Brunei Darussalam, Kuwait, Qatar, Singapore, United Arab Emirates

**Level D**

Bahamas, Republic of Korea

**Level E**

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Malta, Slovenia

**Level F**

Argentina, Barbados, Seychelles

**Level G**

Oman, Palau, Saudi Arabia

**Level H**

Saint Kitts and Nevis, Uruguay

**Level I**

Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nauru, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe

**Level J**

The least developed countries: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia

## RESOLUTION 55/236

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/712, para. 10)[109]

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[109] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

### 55/236. Voluntary movements in connection with the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

1. *Welcomes with appreciation* the commitment of certain Member States to undertake voluntarily to contribute to peacekeeping operations at a rate higher than required by their per capita income;

2. *Welcomes* the voluntary decision made by Estonia and Israel to be reclassified for the purpose of the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations;

3. *Decides* that, as an ad hoc arrangement until 30 June 2001, in respect of the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by subsequent relevant resolutions and decisions, for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, from 1 January 2001 Estonia should be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*b*) of resolution 43/232, and that its contributions to peacekeeping operations should be calculated in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions adopted and to be adopted by the General Assembly regarding the scale of assessments;

4. *Decides also* that, as an ad hoc arrangement until 30 June 2001, in respect of the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232, as adjusted by subsequent relevant resolutions and decisions, for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, from 1 January 2001 Israel should be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*b*) of resolution 43/232, and that its contributions to peacekeeping operations should be calculated in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions adopted and to be adopted by the General Assembly regarding the scale of assessments;

5. *Welcomes* the following voluntary commitments:

Bulgaria: from Level I to Level H;[110]

Czech Republic: from Level I to Level H;[110]

Estonia: to move to Level B immediately upon the effective date of the new scale, forgoing its transition time;

Hungary: from Level I to Level B, with a transition time of five years, starting from 1 July 2001 as follows: from Level I to Level H[110] from 1 July 2001; from Level H to Level F from 1 July 2002; from Level F to Level E from 1 July 2003; from Level E to Level D from 1 July 2004; and from Level D to Level B from 1 July 2005;

Israel: to move to Level B immediately upon the effective date of the new scale, forgoing its transition time;

Latvia: from Level I to Level H;[110]

Lithuania: from Level I to Level H;[110]

Malta: from Level E to Level B;

Philippines: from Level I to Level H;[110]

Poland: from Level I to Level H;[110]

Romania: from Level I to Level H;[110]

Slovakia: from Level I to Level H;[110]

Slovenia: from Level E to Level B immediately upon the effective date of the new scale, forgoing its transition time;

Turkey: from Level I to Level H[110] from the effective date of the new scale until 2002, and from Level H to Level F for the remainder of the scale period;

6. *Decides* that, at any time during the scale period, a Member State may make a voluntary commitment to contribute at a rate higher than its current rate by informing the General Assembly through the Secretary-General, and the Assembly may take note of that decision.

## RESOLUTION 55/237

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/711, para. 6)[111]

### 55/237. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea[112] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[113]

*Bearing in mind* Security Council resolution 1312 (2000) of 31 July 2000 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea,

*Recognizing* that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

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[110] Level H means 70 per cent discount for voluntary movement.

[111] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[112] A/55/666.

[113] A/55/688.

*Recognizing also* that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

*Taking into account* the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations,

*Bearing in mind* the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

*Mindful* of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

2. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea in full and on time;

3. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

4. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

5. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with its resolution 52/1 A of 15 October 1997;

7. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[113]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

10. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the establishment and operation of the Mission for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 in an amount not exceeding 150 million United States dollars gross (148,220,200 dollars net), inclusive of the amount of 50 million dollars gross (49,715,100 dollars net) authorized by the Advisory Committee under the terms of section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994, and of the costs related to the dispatch of reconnaissance and liaison teams to the Mission area, and requests the Secretary-General to establish a special account for the Mission;

11. *Decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion among Member States the amount of 102,192,982 dollars gross (100,980,428 dollars net) for the period from 31 July 2000 to 15 March 2001, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996, 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and 55/236 of 23 December 2000 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 and 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999, the scale of assessments for 2000[114] to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 68,421,052 dollars gross (67,609,214 dollars net), which is the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000, and the scale of assessments for 2001[115] to be applied against the balance, that is, 33,771,930 dollars gross (33,371,214 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 15 March 2001;

12. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 11 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,212,554 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 31 July 2000 to 15 March 2001, 811,838 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000 and the balance, that is, 400,716 dollars, pertaining to the period from 1 January to 15 March 2001;

13. *Decides further*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion among Member States the amount of 47,807,018 dollars gross (47,239,772 dollars net) for the period from

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[114] See resolutions 52/215 A and 54/237 A.

[115] See resolution 55/5 B, annex II.

16 March to 30 June 2001 at a monthly rate of 13,596,491 dollars gross (13,435,164 dollars net), in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2001,[115] subject to any decision by the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 15 March 2001;

14. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 567,246 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 16 March to 30 June 2001;

15. *Decides also* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea the additional amount of 9,190,200 dollars gross (8,741,600 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, to be apportioned, as an ad hoc arrangement, among Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, the scale of assessments for the year 2000[114] to be applied against a portion thereof, that is 4,595,100 dollars gross (4,370,800 dollars net), which is the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000, and the scale of assessments for the year 2001[115] to be applied against the balance, that is, 4,595,100 dollars gross (4,370,800 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2001;

16. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 15 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 448,600 dollars approved for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, 224,300 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000 and the balance, that is, 224,300 dollars, pertaining to the period from 1 January to 30 June 2001;

17. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

18. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

19. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

20. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea".

## RESOLUTION 55/238

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/713, para. 37)[116]

### 55/238. Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001

*The General Assembly,*

### I

### Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on resource requirements for implementation of the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations[117] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[118]

*Taking full account* of the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects[119] and General Assembly resolution 55/135 of 8 December 2000, endorsing the proposals, recommendation and conclusions of the Special Committee contained in its report,

*Recalling* its resolutions 45/258 of 3 May 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 48/226 A of 23 December 1993, 48/226 B of 5 April 1994, 48/226 C of 29 July 1994, 49/250 of 20 July 1995, 50/11 of 2 November 1995, 50/221 A of 11 April 1996, 50/221 B of 7 June 1996, 51/226 of 3 April 1997, 51/239 A of 17 June 1997, 51/239 B and 51/243 of 15 September 1997, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 52/234 and 52/248 of 26 June 1998, 53/12 A of 26 October 1998, 53/208 B of 18 December 1998, 53/12 B of 8 June 1999, 54/243 A of 23 December 1999 and 54/243 B of 15 June 2000 and its decisions 48/489 of 8 July 1994, 49/469 of 23 December 1994 and 50/473 of 23 December 1995,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 54/249 and 54/250 of 23 December 1999,

*Recalling further* its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

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[116] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[117] A/55/507 and Add.1.

[118] A/55/676.

[119] A/C.4/55/6.

1. *Reaffirms* rule 153 of its rules of procedure;

2. *Agrees* with the views expressed by the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations in paragraphs 34 and 35 of its report on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects;[119]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[118] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

4. *Decides* to appropriate an additional amount of 363,000 United States dollars under section 3, Political affairs, 37,200 dollars under section 27, Management and central support services, and 19,200 dollars under section 32, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount (19,200 dollars) under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001;[120]

5. *Approves* the support account post and non-post requirements in the amount of 9,190,200 dollars gross (8,741,600 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;

6. *Agrees* with paragraph 36 of the report of the Special Committee[119] relating to proper representation of troop-contributing countries in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat;

7. *Underscores* the importance of consultation with troop-contributing countries from the early stages of mission planning;

8. *Expresses deep concern* over the delay in reimbursement of troop contributors, which can cause hardship to all troop- and equipment-contributing countries, and requests the Secretariat to expedite the processing of all claims and present a progress report in this regard during the first part of the resumed fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

9. *Notes* that the related resource requirements presented by the Secretary-General in his report on resource requirements for implementation of the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations[117] have been described by him as an emergency request, whereas, in terms of paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[118] it was acknowledged that not all the proposals in the report of the Secretary-General on resource requirements for implementation of the report of the Panel could be classified as emergency requests;

10. *Regrets* that the report of the Secretary-General on resource requirements for implementation of the report of the Panel was not presented in accordance with rule 153 of its rules of procedures and with established practices, as pointed out in paragraph 3 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[118] and requests the Secretary-General to comply strictly with those rules in the future;

11. *Notes* that the report of the Secretary-General on resource requirements for implementation of the report of the Panel has not been issued in compliance with the six-week rule;

12. *Takes note* of the intention of the Secretary-General to submit future reports to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth sessions on the implementation of the recommendations in the report of the Panel, including the comprehensive review, requested by the Special Committee, of the management, structure, recruitment processes and interrelationships of all relevant elements within the Secretariat that play a role in peacekeeping operations;

## II

## Safety and security of United Nations personnel

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 54/249 and 54/250 of 23 December 1999 and its other relevant resolutions,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on safety and security of United Nations personnel,[121] in particular its administrative and budgetary aspects, and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[122]

1. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[122] subject to the provisions set forth in the present section;

2. *Decides* to consider the reclassification of the post of Deputy Security Coordinator from the D-1 level to the D-2 level in the context of its review of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

3. *Also decides* to establish, effective 1 January 2001, eight additional Professional posts (two P-5 and six P-4) in the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator at Headquarters;

4. *Further decides* to establish, effective 1 January 2001, eight additional security officer (Field Service) posts (four P-4 and four P-3) and sixteen additional Local level posts;

5. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 2,210,000 dollars under section 30, Special expenses, and the amount of 238,400 dollars under section 32, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001,[120] for the Secretary-General to undertake the immediate measures for the strengthening of the security management system of the United Nations;

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[120] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1), vols I–III; ibid., *Supplement No. 6A* (A/54/6/Rev.1/Add.1); and ibid., *Supplement No. 6B* (A/54/6/Rev.1/Add.2).

[121] A/55/494.

[122] A/55/658.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to develop, in coordination with executive heads of the United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes, an effective mechanism for cost-sharing arrangements and, in this connection, to ensure that in future the costs of the security management system are included in the regular budget, to be managed by the United Nations, contingent upon a formal arrangement with the concerned agencies, funds and programmes for participation in the funding of security arrangements and reimbursement to the United Nations for services provided, under income section 2, General income, of the programme budget, and to submit proposals thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session through the Advisory Committee, and decides that, in the meantime, the established cost-sharing arrangements between the United Nations and its specialized agencies, funds and programmes will remain in place until the Assembly decides otherwise;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, when presenting future reports under these agenda items, to continue to ensure that separate reports are presented;

## III

## Revised estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized

*Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized,[123] and concurs with the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 7 of its related report;[124]

## IV

## Capital master plan

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the capital master plan;[125]

2. *Also takes note* of the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[126] and endorses the observations and recommendations contained therein;

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, without prejudice to a final decision by the General Assembly on this issue, to proceed with the preparation of a comprehensive design plan and detailed cost analysis for the capital master plan, and decides to appropriate an amount of 8 million dollars under section 31, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001[120] for this purpose;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the outcome of the comprehensive design plan and detailed cost analysis to the General Assembly as soon as possible, including details of measures designed to protect the Organization from cost overruns;

5. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to ensure that the preparation of a comprehensive design plan and detailed cost analysis for the capital master plan will identify all viable alternatives in the most cost-effective and efficient manner;

## V

## International Court of Justice

1. *Approves* an additional appropriation of 591,900 dollars under section 7, International Court of Justice, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001[120] and an additional appropriation of 128,800 dollars under section 32, Staff assessment, offset by the same amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

2. *Requests* the Joint Inspection Unit to expedite its report on the review of the management and administration of the International Court of Justice[127] and to submit it, together with the comments of the Court thereon, for consideration by the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-fifth session;

## VI

## Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on the programme of work of the Institute for 2001

*Approves* the recommendation for a subvention of 213,000 dollars for 2001 from the regular budget of the United Nations, on the understanding that no additional appropriation would be required under section 4, Disarmament, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001;[120]

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[123] A/C.5/55/30.

[124] A/55/7/Add.6. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 7.*

[125] A/55/117 and Add.1.

[126] A/55/7/Add.4. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 7.*

[127] See A/53/841, annex, para. 5.

### VII

### Conditions of service and compensation for officials, other than Secretariat officials, serving the General Assembly: full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Conditions of service and compensation for officials, other than Secretariat officials, serving the General Assembly: full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions",[128] and approves the suggestions outlined in paragraphs 8 to 10 and in paragraph 19 of the report;

2. *Decides* to undertake a detailed examination of the issue of compensation relativity in the context of the next five-year review of the conditions of service and compensation for the three officials;

3. *Reaffirms* the principle that the conditions of service of the three officials should be separate and distinct from those of the Secretariat;

### VIII

### Review of the Information Systems Coordination Committee

*Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the Information Systems Coordination Committee,[129] and concurs with the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 9 of its related report;[130]

### IX

### First performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001

*Having considered* the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001[131] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[132]

1. *Reaffirms* the budgetary process as approved in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and as reaffirmed in its subsequent resolutions;

2. *Reaffirms also* its resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999;

3. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001[131] and the related report and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[132]

4. *Notes* the higher than budgeted vacancy rate relative to the rate approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/249, and requests the Secretary-General to take all appropriate measures to rectify this situation in an expeditious manner;

5. *Approves* a net decrease of 34,642,200 dollars in the appropriation approved for the biennium 2000–2001 and a net increase of 19,097,000 dollars in the estimates of income for the biennium, to be apportioned among expenditure and income sections, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General;

### X

### Contingency fund

*Notes* that a balance of 224,300 dollars remains in the contingency fund;

### XI

### Recosting of outstanding statements of programme budget implications and revised estimates

*Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on recosting of outstanding statements of programme budget implications and revised estimates,[133] and decides that the recosting and the related adjustments should be reflected in the revised appropriation for the biennium 2000–2001.

## RESOLUTIONS 55/239 A to C

Adopted at the 89th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/713, para. 37)[134]

### 55/239. Programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001

### A

### REVISED BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2000–2001

*The General Assembly*

*Resolves* that for the biennium 2000–2001 the amount of 2,535,689,200 United States dollars appropriated by it in its resolution 54/250 A of 23 December 1999 shall be adjusted by 2,563,800 dollars, as follows:

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[128] A/C.5/55/29.

[129] A/55/619.

[130] A/55/7/Add.3. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 7.*

[131] A/55/645 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[132] A/55/7/Add.5 and Corr.1. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 7.*

[133] A/C.5/55/35.

[134] The draft resolutions recommended in the report were submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

| *Section* | | | *Amount approved in resolution 54/250 A* | *Increase/(decrease)* | *Revised appropriation* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | *(United States dollars)* | |
| Part I. | *Overall policy-making, direction and coordination* | | | | |
| | 1. | Overall policy-making, direction and coordination | 47 675 100 | 338 000 | 48 013 100 |
| | 2. | General Assembly affairs and conference services | 425 970 200 | (16 946 100) | 409 024 100 |
| | | **Total, part I** | **473 645 300** | **(16 608 100)** | **457 037 200** |
| Part II. | *Political affairs* | | | | |
| | 3. | Political affairs | 137 756 000 | 30 088 700 | 167 844 700 |
| | 4. | Disarmament | 14 067 900 | (247 000) | 13 820 900 |
| | 5. | Peacekeeping operations | 76 094 700 | (1 210 700) | 74 884 000 |
| | 6. | Peaceful uses of outer space | 3 667 700 | (354 200) | 3 313 500 |
| | | **Total, part II** | **231 586 300** | **28 276 800** | **259 863 100** |
| Part III. | *International justice and law* | | | | |
| | 7. | International Court of Justice | 20 864 500 | (257 800) | 20 606 700 |
| | 8. | Legal affairs | 34 522 300 | (641 700) | 33 880 600 |
| | | **Total, part III** | **55 386 800** | **(899 500)** | **54 487 300** |
| Part IV. | *International cooperation for development* | | | | |
| | 9. | Economic and social affairs | 113 112 600 | (680 800) | 112 431 800 |
| | 10. | Africa: New Agenda for Development | 5 883 400 | (23 600) | 5 859 800 |
| | 11A. | Trade and development | 87 685 500 | (6 311 900) | 81 373 600 |
| | 11B. | International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO | 19 248 700 | (2 238 900) | 17 009 800 |
| | 12. | Environment | 8 743 400 | (642 500) | 8 100 900 |
| | 13. | Human settlements | 13 757 400 | (1 460 100) | 12 297 300 |
| | 14. | Crime prevention and criminal justice | 5 299 100 | (477 800) | 4 821 300 |
| | 15. | International drug control | 15 037 800 | (1 319 600) | 13 718 200 |
| | | **Total, part IV** | **268 767 900** | **(13 155 200)** | **255 612 700** |
| Part V. | *Regional cooperation for development* | | | | |
| | 16. | Economic and social development in Africa | 78 455 200 | 2 189 800 | 80 645 000 |
| | 17. | Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific | 57 031 600 | (2 620 400) | 54 411 200 |
| | 18. | Economic development in Europe | 40 554 600 | (3 140 000) | 37 414 600 |
| | 19. | Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean | 78 857 500 | (3 273 400) | 75 584 100 |
| | 20. | Economic and social development in Western Asia | 50 336 200 | (1 754 800) | 48 581 400 |
| | 21. | Regular programme of technical cooperation | 41 995 300 | (740 500) | 41 254 800 |
| | | **Total, part V** | **347 230 400** | **(9 339 300)** | **337 891 100** |
| Part VI. | *Human rights and humanitarian affairs* | | | | |
| | 22. | Human rights | 41 163 400 | (2 095 700) | 39 067 700 |
| | 23. | Protection of and assistance to refugees | 41 940 000 | (3 101 100) | 38 838 900 |
| | 24. | Palestine refugees | 21 667 900 | 1 507 500 | 23 175 400 |
| | 25. | Humanitarian assistance | 18 841 800 | (393 900) | 18 447 900 |
| | | **Total, part VI** | **123 613 100** | **(4 083 200)** | **119 529 900** |
| Part VII. | *Public information* | | | | |
| | 26. | Public information | 143 605 500 | (1 071 000) | 142 534 500 |
| | | **Total, part VII** | **143 605 500** | **(1 071 000)** | **142 534 500** |
| Part VIII. | *Common support services* | | | | |
| | 27. | Management and central support services | 441 857 400 | (8 288 300) | 433 569 100 |
| | | **Total, part VIII** | **441 857 400** | **(8 288 300)** | **433 569 100** |
| Part IX. | *Internal oversight* | | | | |
| | 28. | Internal oversight | 19 220 600 | (469 900) | 18 750 700 |
| | | **Total, part IX** | **19 220 600** | **(469 900)** | **18 750 700** |

| Section | | | Amount approved in resolution 54/250 A | Increase/(decrease) | Revised appropriation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | (United States dollars) | | |
| Part X. | *Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses* | | | | |
| | 29. | Jointly financed administrative activities | 7 844 300 | 176 200 | 8 020 500 |
| | 30. | Special expenses | 53 001 200 | 1 510 500 | 54 511 700 |
| | | **Total, part X** | **60 845 500** | **1 686 700** | **62 532 200** |
| Part XI. | *Capital expenditures* | | | | |
| | 31. | Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance | 42 617 400 | 7 149 900 | 49 767 300 |
| | | **Total, part XI** | **42 617 400** | **7 149 900** | **49 767 300** |
| Part XII. | *Staff assessment* | | | | |
| | 32. | Staff assessment | 314 248 000 | 14 237 300 | 328 485 300 |
| | | **Total, part XII** | **314 248 000** | **14 237 300** | **328 485 300** |
| Part XIII. | *Development Account* | | | | |
| | 33. | Development Account | 13 065 000 | - | 13 065 000 |
| | | **Total, part XIII** | **13 065 000** | - | **13 065 000** |
| | | **Grand total** | **2 535 689 200** | **(2 563 800)** | **2 533 125 400** |

## B

### REVISED INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2000–2001

*The General Assembly*

*Resolves* that, for the biennium 2000–2001, the estimates of income of 361,298,900 United States dollars approved by it in its resolution 54/250 B of 23 December 1999 shall be increased by 19,523,800 dollars, as follows:

| Income section | | Amount approved in resolution 54/250 B | Increase/(decrease | Revised appropriation |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | (United States dollars) | | |
| 1. | Income from staff assessment | 318 911 500 | 14 213 700 | 333 125 200 |
| | **Total, income section 1** | **318 911 500** | **14 213 700** | **333 125 200** |
| 2. | General income | 37 178 000 | 5 550 600 | 42 728 600 |
| 3. | Services to the public | 5 209 400 | (240 500) | 4 968 900 |
| | **Total, income sections 2 and 3** | **42 387 400** | **5 310 100** | **47 697 500** |
| | **Grand total** | **361 298 900** | **19 523 800** | **380 822 700** |

## C

### FINANCING OF THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2001

*The General Assembly*

*Resolves* that, for the year 2001:

1. Budget appropriations totalling 1,265,280,800 United States dollars and consisting of 1,267,844,600 dollars, being half of the appropriations initially approved for the biennium 2000–2001 in its resolution 54/250 C of 23 December 1999, less 2,563,800 dollars, being the reduction approved by the General Assembly in resolution A above, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 5.1 and 5.2 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations as follows:

(*a*) 51,899,313 dollars, consisting of:

(i) 21,193,700 dollars, being half of the estimated income other than income from staff assessment approved for the biennium 2000–2001 by the Assembly in its resolution 54/250 B of 23 December 1999;

(ii) Plus 5,310,100 dollars, being the increase approved by the Assembly in resolution B above;

(iii) 25,395,513 dollars, being the balance in the surplus account as at 31 December 1999;

(*b*) 1,213,381,487 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000 on the scale of assessments for the year 2001;

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 179,097,566 dollars, consisting of:

(*a*) 159,455,750 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved by the Assembly in its resolution 54/250 B;

(*b*) Plus 14,213,700 dollars, being the estimated increase in income from staff assessment approved by the Assembly in resolution B above;

(*c*) Plus 5,428,116 dollars, being the increase in income from staff assessment for the biennium 1998–1999 compared with the revised estimates approved by the Assembly in its resolution 54/247 B of 23 December 1999.

# VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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## RESOLUTION 55/148

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/605, para. 8)[1]

### 55/148. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 32/44 of 8 December 1977, 34/51 of 23 November 1979, 37/116 of 16 December 1982, 39/77 of 13 December 1984, 41/72 of 3 December 1986, 43/161 of 9 December 1988, 45/38 of 28 November 1990, 47/30 of 25 November 1992, 49/48 of 9 December 1994, 51/155 of 16 December 1996 and 53/96 of 8 December 1998,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

*Thanking* Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross for their contribution to the report of the Secretary-General,

*Convinced* of the continuing value of established humanitarian rules relating to armed conflicts and the need to respect and ensure respect for these rules in all circumstances within the scope of the relevant international instruments, pending the earliest possible termination of such conflicts,

*Stressing* the possibility of making use of the International Fact-Finding Commission in relation to an armed conflict, pursuant to article 90 of Protocol I,[3] and recalling that the International Fact-Finding Commission may, where necessary, facilitate, through its good offices, the restoration of an attitude of respect for the Geneva Conventions[4] and the Protocol,

*Stressing also* the need for consolidating the existing body of international humanitarian law through its universal acceptance and the need for wide dissemination and full implementation of such law at the national level, and expressing concern about all violations of the Geneva Conventions and the two additional Protocols,[5]

*Noting with satisfaction* the increasing number of national commissions and other bodies involved in advising authorities at the national level on the implementation, dissemination and development of international humanitarian law,

*Mindful* of the role of the International Committee of the Red Cross in offering protection to the victims of armed conflicts,

*Noting with appreciation* the continuing efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross to promote and disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions and the two additional Protocols,

*Recalling* that the Twenty-sixth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent endorsed the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the Protection of War Victims, including the recommendation that the depositary of the Geneva Conventions should organize periodic meetings of States parties to the Conventions to consider general problems regarding the application of international humanitarian law,

*Welcoming* the adoption, at The Hague on 26 March 1999, of a second Protocol[6] to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict,[7]

*Noting* the celebration in 1999 at The Hague and at St. Petersburg of the centennial of the first International Peace Conference which highlighted the importance of the Geneva Conventions for the protection of victims of armed conflicts and the additional Protocols,

*Acknowledging* the fact that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, adopted on 17 July 1998,[8] includes the most serious crimes of international concern under international humanitarian law, and that the Statute, while recalling that it is the duty of every State to exercise its criminal jurisdiction over those responsible for such crimes, shows the determination of the international community to put an end to impunity for the perpetrators of such crimes and thus to contribute to their prevention,

*Noting* that international humanitarian law has been an important topic in the United Nations Decade for International Law, which came to an end in 1999, fifty years after the adoption of the Geneva Conventions, and acknowledging the usefulness of discussing in the General Assembly the status of international humanitarian law instruments relevant to the protection of victims of armed conflicts,

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Kenya, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland..

[2] A/55/173 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[4] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[6] *International Legal Materials*, vol. XXXVIII, p. 769.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511.

[8] A/CONF.183/9.

1. *Appreciates* the virtually universal acceptance of the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[4] and notes the trend towards a similarly wide acceptance of the two additional Protocols of 1977;[5]

2. *Appeals* to all States parties to the Geneva Conventions that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the additional Protocols at the earliest possible date;

3. *Calls upon* all States that are already parties to Protocol I,[5] or those States not parties, on becoming parties to Protocol I, to make the declaration provided for under article 90 of that Protocol;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict[7] and the two Protocols thereto, and to other relevant treaties on international humanitarian law relating to the protection of victims of armed conflict;

5. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions to ensure their wide dissemination and full implementation;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the Plan of Action adopted by the Twenty-seventh International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, in particular the reiteration of the importance of universal adherence to treaties on humanitarian law and their effective implementation at the national level;

7. *Affirms* the necessity of making the implementation of international humanitarian law more effective;

8. *Welcomes* the advisory service activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross in supporting efforts undertaken by Member States to take legislative and administrative action to implement international humanitarian law and in promoting the exchange of information on those efforts between Governments;

9. *Welcomes also* the increasing numbers of national commissions or committees for the implementation of international humanitarian law and for promoting the incorporation of treaties on international humanitarian law into national law and disseminating the rules of international humanitarian law;

10. *Welcomes further* the adoption of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflicts;[9]

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the status of the additional Protocols relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, as well as on measures taken to strengthen the existing body of international humanitarian law, inter alia, with respect to its dissemination and full implementation at the national level, based on information received from Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts".

## RESOLUTION 55/149

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/606, para. 8)[10]

### 55/149. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the reports of the Secretary-General,[11]

*Conscious* of the need to develop and strengthen friendly relations and cooperation among States,

*Convinced* that respect for the principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations is a basic prerequisite for the normal conduct of relations among States and for the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Alarmed* by the recent acts of violence against diplomatic and consular representatives, as well as against representatives of international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, which have endangered or taken innocent lives and seriously impeded the normal work of such representatives and officials,

*Expressing sympathy* for the victims of such illegal acts,

*Recalling* the Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Security Council in relation to flagrant violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as well as missions and representatives of international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations,

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[9] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

[10] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lesotho, Malta, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[11] A/55/164 and Add.1-3 and A/INF/54/5 and Add.1 and 2.

*Concerned* at the failure to respect the inviolability of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives,

*Recalling* that, without prejudice to their privileges and immunities, it is the duty of all persons enjoying such privileges and immunities to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State,

*Recalling also* that diplomatic and consular premises must not be used in any manner incompatible with the diplomatic or consular functions,

*Emphasizing* the duty of States to take all appropriate measures as required by international law, including measures of a preventive nature, and to bring offenders to justice,

*Welcoming* measures already taken by States to this end in conformity with their international obligations,

*Convinced* that the role of the United Nations, which includes the reporting procedures established under General Assembly resolution 35/168 of 15 December 1980 and further elaborated in subsequent Assembly resolutions, is important in promoting efforts to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[11]

2. *Strongly condemns* acts of violence against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as well as against missions and representatives of international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, and emphasizes that such acts can never be justified;

3. *Also strongly condemns* the recent acts of violence against such missions, representatives and officials, referred to in relevant reports under this item;

4. *Urges* States to strictly observe, implement and enforce the principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations and, in particular, to ensure, in conformity with their international obligations, the protection, security and safety of the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above officially present in territories under their jurisdiction, including practical measures to prohibit in their territories illegal activities of persons, groups and organizations that encourage, instigate, organize or engage in the perpetration of acts against the security and safety of such missions, representatives and officials;

5. *Also urges* States to take all necessary measures at the national and international levels to prevent any acts of violence against the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above and to ensure, with the participation of the United Nations where appropriate, that such acts are fully investigated with a view to bringing offenders to justice;

6. *Recommends* that States cooperate closely through, inter alia, contacts between the diplomatic and consular missions and the receiving State with regard to practical measures designed to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives and with regard to the exchange of information on the circumstances of all serious violations thereof;

7. *Urges* States to take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law, at the national and international levels, to prevent any abuse of diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, in particular serious abuses, including those involving acts of violence;

8. *Recommends* that States cooperate closely with the State in whose territory abuses of diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities may have occurred, including by exchanging information and providing assistance to its juridical authorities in order to bring offenders to justice;

9. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the instruments relevant to the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives;

10. *Also calls upon* States, in cases where a dispute arises in connection with a violation of their international obligations concerning the protection of the missions or the security of the representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above, to make use of the means for peaceful settlement of disputes, including the good offices of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General, when he deems it appropriate, to offer his good offices to the States directly concerned;

11. *Requests* all States to report to the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 9 of resolution 42/154 of 7 December 1987;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to issue a report on the item, in accordance with paragraph 12 of resolution 42/154, containing also an analytical summary of the reports received under paragraph 11 above, on an annual basis, as well as to proceed with his other tasks pursuant to the same resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives".

## RESOLUTION 55/150

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/607, para. 11)[12]

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[12] *The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by:* Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Malta, Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Spain, Sudan, Uganda and Ukraine.

### 55/150. Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/101 of 9 December 1999,

*Having considered* the report of the Working Group on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property of the International Law Commission, set forth in the annex to the report of the Commission on the work of its fifty-first session,[13]

*Having considered also* the reports presented to the Sixth Committee by the Chairman of the open-ended working group of the Committee established under resolutions 53/98 of 8 December 1998 and 54/101,[14]

*Having considered further* the report of the Secretary-General,[15]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Working Group on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property of the International Law Commission, set forth in the annex to the report of the Commission on the work of its fifty-first session;[13]

2. *Urges* States, if they have not yet done so, to submit their comments to the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/61 of 9 December 1994, and also invites States to submit in writing to the Secretary-General, by 1 August 2001, their comments on the reports of the open-ended working group of the Sixth Committee established under resolutions 53/98 and 54/101;[14]

3. *Decides* to establish an Ad Hoc Committee on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property, open also to participation by States members of the specialized agencies, to further the work done, consolidate areas of agreement and resolve outstanding issues with a view to elaborating a generally acceptable instrument based on the draft articles on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property adopted by the International Law Commission at its forty-third session,[16] and also on the discussions of the open-ended working group of the Sixth Committee and their results;[14]

4. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall meet for two weeks in March 2002;

5. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property".

## RESOLUTION 55/151

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/608, para. 8)[17]

### 55/151. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-third session

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it created the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

*Reaffirming its conviction* that the progressive harmonization and unification of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting the developing countries, would contribute significantly to universal economic cooperation among all States on a basis of equality, equity and common interest and to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and, thereby, to the well-being of all peoples,

*Emphasizing* the need for higher priority to be given to the work of the Commission in view of the increasing value of the modernization of international trade law for global economic development and thus for the maintenance of friendly relations among States,

*Stressing* the value of participation by States at all levels of economic development and from different legal systems in the process of harmonizing and unifying international trade law,

*Having considered* the report of the Commission on the work of its thirty-third session,[18]

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[13] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No 10* and corrigenda (A/54/10 and Corr. 1 and 2).

[14] See A/C.6/54/L.12 and A/C.6/55/L.12; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Sixth Committee, 30th meeting* (A/C.6/54/SR.30), and corrigendum; and ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Sixth Committee, 30th meeting* (A/C.6/55/SR.30), and corrigendum.

[15] A/55/298.

[16] *Yearbook of the International Law Commission, 1991*, vol. II, Part Two (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.V.9 (Part 2)), document A/46/10, chap. II, para. 28.

[17] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela.

[18] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/55/17).

*Concerned* that activities undertaken by other bodies of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law without coordination with the Commission might lead to undesirable duplication of efforts and would not be in keeping with the aim of promoting efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law, as stated in its resolution 37/106 of 16 December 1982,

*Stressing* the importance of the further development of case law on United Nations Commission on International Trade Law texts in promoting the uniform application of the legal texts of the Commission and its value for government officials, practitioners and academics,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-third session;[18]

2. *Commends* the Commission for the work on privately financed infrastructure projects, which culminated in the adoption of the UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Privately Financed Infrastructure Projects,[19] as well as the important progress made in its work on receivables financing;

3. *Appeals* to Governments that have not yet done so to reply to the questionnaire circulated by the Secretariat in relation to the legal regime governing the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards and, in particular, to the legislative implementation of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, done at New York on 10 June 1958;[20]

4. *Invites* States to nominate persons to work with the private foundation established to encourage assistance to the Commission from the private sector;

5. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to coordinate legal activities in this field and, in this connection:

(*a*) Calls upon all bodies of the United Nations system and invites other international organizations to bear in mind the mandate of the Commission and the need to avoid duplication of effort and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law;

(*b*) Recommends that the Commission, through its secretariat, continue to maintain close cooperation with the other international organs and organizations, including regional organizations, active in the field of international trade law;

6. *Also reaffirms* the importance, in particular for developing countries, of the work of the Commission concerned with training and technical assistance in the field of international trade law, such as assistance in the preparation of national legislation based on legal texts of the Commission;

7. *Expresses the desirability* for increased efforts by the Commission, in sponsoring seminars and symposia, to provide such training and technical assistance, and, in this connection:

(*a*) Expresses its appreciation to the Commission for organizing seminars and briefing missions in Brazil, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Peru, the Russian Federation and South Africa;

(*b*) Expresses its appreciation to the Governments whose contributions enabled the seminars and briefing missions to take place, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Trust Fund for Symposia and, where appropriate, to the financing of special projects, and otherwise to assist the secretariat of the Commission in financing and organizing seminars and symposia, in particular in developing countries, and in the award of fellowships to candidates from developing countries to enable them to participate in such seminars and symposia;

8. *Appeals* to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, as well as to Governments in their bilateral aid programmes, to support the training and technical assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission;

9. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals, in order to ensure full participation by all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund for travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

10. *Decides*, in order to ensure full participation by all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to continue, in the competent Main Committee during the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, its consideration of granting travel assistance to the least developed countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen the secretariat of the Commission within the bounds of the resources available so as to ensure and enhance the effective implementation of the programme of the Commission;

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[19] Ibid., para. 372.

[20] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 330, No. 4739.

12. *Stresses* the importance of bringing into effect the conventions emanating from the work of the Commission for the global unification and harmonization of international trade law, and to this end urges States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to those conventions;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implications of increasing the membership of the Commission, and invites Member States to submit their views on this issue;

14. *Expresses its appreciation* to Gerold Herrmann, Secretary of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law since 1991, who will retire on 31 January 2001, for his outstanding and devoted contribution to the process of unification and harmonization of international trade law in general and to the Commission in particular.

## RESOLUTION 55/152

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/609, para. 10)[21]

### 55/152. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-second session

*The General Assembly,*

*Having considered* the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-second session,[22]

*Emphasizing* the importance of furthering the codification and progressive development of international law as a means of implementing the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[23]

*Recognizing* the desirability of referring legal and drafting questions to the Sixth Committee, including topics that might be submitted to the International Law Commission for closer examination, and of enabling the Sixth Committee and the Commission to further enhance their contribution to the progressive development of international law and its codification,

*Recalling* the need to keep under review those topics of international law which, given their new or renewed interest for the international community, may be suitable for the progressive development and codification of international law and therefore may be included in the future programme of work of the International Law Commission,

*Welcoming* the holding of the International Law Seminar, and noting with appreciation the voluntary contributions made to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar,

*Stressing* the usefulness of structuring the debate on the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee in such a manner that conditions are provided for concentrated attention to each of the main topics dealt with in the report,

*Wishing* to enhance further the interaction between the Sixth Committee as a body of governmental representatives and the International Law Commission as a body of independent legal experts, with a view to improving the dialogue between the two organs,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-second session;[22]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for the work accomplished at its fifty-second session, in particular with respect to the topic "State responsibility", and encourages the Commission to complete its work on this topic during its fifty-third session, taking into account the views expressed by Governments during the debates in the Sixth Committee at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, and any written comments that may be submitted by 31 January 2001;

3. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their views on the various aspects involved in the topics on the agenda of the Commission, in particular on all the specific issues identified in chapter III of its report;

4. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments, within the context of paragraph 3 above, to respond, to the extent possible, in writing by 28 February 2001 to the questionnaire and requests for materials on unilateral acts of States circulated by the Secretariat to all Governments on 30 September 1999 and 2 October 2000;

5. *Also reiterates its invitation* to Governments to submit the most relevant national legislation, decisions of domestic courts and State practice relevant to diplomatic protection in order to assist the International Law Commission in its work on the topic "Diplomatic protection";

6. *Recommends* that, taking into account the comments and observations of Governments, whether in writing or expressed orally in debates in the General Assembly, the International Law Commission continue its work on the topics in its current programme;

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[21] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the representative of Colombia.

[22] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/55/10).

[23] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

7. *Notes with appreciation* the work done by the International Law Commission at its fifty-second session on the topic "International liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law", and requests the Commission to resume consideration of the liability aspects of the topic as soon as the second reading of the draft articles on the prevention of transboundary damage from hazardous activities is completed, bearing in mind the interrelationship between the prevention and the liability aspects of the topic and taking into account developments in international law and comments by Governments;

8. *Takes note* of paragraphs 726 to 733 of the report of the International Law Commission with regard to its long-term programme of work, and the syllabuses on new topics annexed to the report;

9. *Invites* the International Law Commission to continue taking measures to enhance its efficiency and productivity;

10. *Takes note* of paragraphs 734 and 735 of the report with regard to the length, nature and place of future sessions of the International Law Commission, in which specific recommendations are made to continue to increase the efficiency and productivity of its work, to facilitate the attendance by its members and to enhance the relationship between the Commission and the Sixth Committee;

11. *Also takes note* of paragraph 736 of the report, and decides that the next session of the International Law Commission shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 23 April to 1 June and from 2 July to 10 August 2001;

12. *Stresses* the desirability of further enhancing the dialogue between the International Law Commission and the Sixth Committee, and in this context encourages, inter alia, the holding of informal discussions between the members of the Sixth Committee and those members of the Commission attending the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly;

13. *Reiterates* its request in paragraph 11 of its resolution 54/111 of 9 December 1999, and emphasizes the need to implement cost-saving measures such as those described in paragraph 639 of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-first session;[24]

14. *Requests* the International Law Commission to continue to pay special attention to indicating in its annual report, for each topic, any specific issues on which expressions of views by Governments, either in the Sixth Committee or in written form, would be of particular interest in providing effective guidance for the Commission in its further work;

15. *Also requests* the International Law Commission to continue the implementation of article 16, paragraph (*e*), and article 26, paragraphs 1 and 2, of its statute in order to further strengthen cooperation between the Commission and other bodies concerned with international law, having in mind the usefulness of such cooperation, and in that regard takes note with appreciation of comments made by the Commission in paragraphs 737 to 741 of its report;

16. *Notes* that consulting with national organizations and individual experts concerned with international law may assist Governments in considering whether to make comments and observations on drafts submitted by the International Law Commission and in formulating their comments and observations;

17. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the role of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat and those concerning the summary records and other documentation of the International Law Commission;

18. *Notes with appreciation* the inclusion of information about the work of the International Law Commission on its web site;[25]

19. *Expresses the hope* that the International Law Seminar will continue to be held in connection with the sessions of the International Law Commission and that an increasing number of participants, in particular from developing countries, will be given the opportunity to attend the Seminar, and appeals to States to continue to make urgently needed voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the International Law Seminar with adequate services, including interpretation, as required, and encourages him to continue considering ways to improve the structure and content of the Seminar;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to forward to the International Law Commission, for its attention, the records of the debate on the report of the Commission at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, together with such written statements as delegations may circulate in conjunction with their oral statements, and to prepare and distribute a topical summary of the debate, following established practice;

22. *Requests* the Secretariat to circulate to States, as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the International Law Commission, chapter II of its report containing a summary of the work of that session and the draft articles adopted on either first or second reading by the Commission;

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[24] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigenda (A/54/10 and Corr.1 and 2).

[25] The Internet address of the International Law Commission is www.un.org/law/ilc/index.htm.

23. *Recommends* that the debate on the report of the International Law Commission at the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly commence on 29 October 2001.

## RESOLUTION 55/153

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/610, para. 7)[26]

### 55/153. Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* chapter IV of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-first session,[27] which contains final draft articles on nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States,

*Noting* that the International Law Commission decided to recommend the draft articles to the General Assembly for their adoption in the form of a declaration,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/112 of 9 December 1999, in which it decided to consider at its fifty-fifth session the draft articles on nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States with a view to their adoption as a declaration,

*Considering* that the work of the International Law Commission on nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States would provide a useful guide for practice in dealing with this issue,

*Acknowledging* that the work of the International Law Commission on this topic could contribute to the elaboration of a convention or other appropriate instrument in the future, and reiterating its invitation, contained in its resolution 54/112, for Governments to submit comments and observations on the question of a convention on nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for its valuable work on nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States;

2. *Takes note* of the articles on nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States, presented by the International Law Commission in the form of a declaration, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

3. *Invites* Governments to take into account, as appropriate, the provisions contained in the articles in dealing with issues of nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States;

4. *Recommends* that all efforts be made for the wide dissemination of the text of the articles;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session an item entitled "Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States".

### Annex

### Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States

### Preamble

*Considering* that problems of nationality arising from succession of States concern the international community,

*Emphasizing* that nationality is essentially governed by internal law within the limits set by international law,

*Recognizing* that in matters concerning nationality, due account should be taken both of the legitimate interests of States and those of individuals,

*Recalling* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948[28] proclaimed the right of every person to a nationality,

*Recalling also* that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 1966[29] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989[30] recognize the right of every child to acquire a nationality,

*Emphasizing* that the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons whose nationality may be affected by a succession of States must be fully respected,

*Bearing in mind* the provisions of the Convention on the reduction of statelessness of 1961,[31] the Vienna Convention on Succession of States in Respect of Treaties of 1978[32] and the Vienna Convention on Succession of States in Respect of State Property, Archives and Debts of 1983,[33]

*Convinced* of the need for the codification and progressive development of the rules of international law concerning nationality in relation to the succession of States as a means for ensuring greater juridical security for States and for individuals,

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[26] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the representative of Ecuador.

[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigenda (A/54/10 and Corr.1 and 2).

[28] Resolution 217 A (III).

[29] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[30] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[31] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 989, No. 14458.

[32] Ibid., vol. 1946, No. 33356.

[33] See A/CONF.117/14.

## Part I. General provisions

### Article 1
### Right to a nationality

Every individual who, on the date of the succession of States, had the nationality of the predecessor State, irrespective of the mode of acquisition of that nationality, has the right to the nationality of at least one of the States concerned, in accordance with the present articles.

### Article 2
### Use of terms

For the purposes of the present articles:

(*a*) "Succession of States" means the replacement of one State by another in the responsibility for the international relations of territory;

(*b*) "Predecessor State" means the State which has been replaced by another State on the occurrence of a succession of States;

(*c*) "Successor State" means the State which has replaced another State on the occurrence of a succession of States;

(*d*) "State concerned" means the predecessor State or the successor State, as the case may be;

(*e*) "Third State" means any State other than the predecessor State or the successor State;

(*f*) "Person concerned" means every individual who, on the date of the succession of States, had the nationality of the predecessor State and whose nationality may be affected by such succession;

(*g*) "Date of the succession of States" means the date upon which the successor State replaced the predecessor State in the responsibility for the international relations of the territory to which the succession of States relates.

### Article 3
### Cases of succession of States covered by the present articles

The present articles apply only to the effects of a succession of States occurring in conformity with international law and, in particular, with the principles of international law embodied in the Charter of the United Nations.

### Article 4
### Prevention of statelessness

States concerned shall take all appropriate measures to prevent persons who, on the date of the succession of States, had the nationality of the predecessor State from becoming stateless as a result of such succession.

### Article 5
### Presumption of nationality

Subject to the provisions of the present articles, persons concerned having their habitual residence in the territory affected by the succession of States are presumed to acquire the nationality of the successor State on the date of such succession.

### Article 6
### Legislation on nationality and other connected issues

Each State concerned should, without undue delay, enact legislation on nationality and other connected issues arising in relation to the succession of States consistent with the provisions of the present articles. It should take all appropriate measures to ensure that persons concerned will be apprised, within a reasonable time period, of the effect of its legislation on their nationality, of any choices they may have thereunder, as well as of the consequences that the exercise of such choices will have on their status.

### Article 7
### Effective date

The attribution of nationality in relation to the succession of States, as well as the acquisition of nationality following the exercise of an option, shall take effect on the date of such succession, if persons concerned would otherwise be stateless during the period between the date of the succession of States and such attribution or acquisition of nationality.

### Article 8
### Persons concerned having their habitual residence in another State

1. A successor State does not have the obligation to attribute its nationality to persons concerned who have their habitual residence in another State and also have the nationality of that or any other State.

2. A successor State shall not attribute its nationality to persons concerned who have their habitual residence in another State against the will of the persons concerned unless they would otherwise become stateless.

### Article 9
### Renunciation of the nationality of another State as a condition for attribution of nationality

When a person concerned who is qualified to acquire the nationality of a successor State has the nationality of another State concerned, the former State may make the attribution of its nationality dependent on the renunciation by such person of the nationality of the latter State. However, such requirement shall not be applied in a manner which would result in rendering the person concerned stateless, even if only temporarily.

### Article 10
### Loss of nationality upon the voluntary acquisition of the nationality of another State

1. A predecessor State may provide that persons concerned who, in relation to the succession of States, voluntarily acquire the nationality of a successor State shall lose its nationality.

2. A successor State may provide that persons concerned who, in relation to the succession of States, voluntarily acquire the nationality of another successor State or, as the case may be, retain the nationality of the predecessor State shall lose its nationality acquired in relation to such succession.

### Article 11
### Respect for the will of persons concerned

1. States concerned shall give consideration to the will of persons concerned whenever those persons are qualified to acquire the nationality of two or more States concerned.

2. Each State concerned shall grant a right to opt for its nationality to persons concerned who have appropriate connection with that State if those persons would otherwise become stateless as a result of the succession of States.

3. When persons entitled to the right of option have exercised such right, the State whose nationality they have opted for shall attribute its nationality to such persons.

4. When persons entitled to the right of option have exercised such right, the State whose nationality they have renounced shall withdraw its nationality from such persons, unless they would thereby become stateless.

5. States concerned should provide a reasonable time limit for the exercise of the right of option.

### Article 12
### Unity of a family

Where the acquisition or loss of nationality in relation to the succession of States would impair the unity of a family, States concerned shall take all appropriate measures to allow that family to remain together or to be reunited.

### Article 13
### Child born after the succession of States

A child of a person concerned, born after the date of the succession of States, who has not acquired any nationality, has the right to the nationality of the State concerned on whose territory that child was born.

### Article 14
### Status of habitual residents

1. The status of persons concerned as habitual residents shall not be affected by the succession of States.

2. A State concerned shall take all necessary measures to allow persons concerned who, because of events connected with the succession of States, were forced to leave their habitual residence on its territory to return thereto.

### Article 15
### Non-discrimination

States concerned shall not deny persons concerned the right to retain or acquire a nationality or the right of option upon the succession of States by discriminating on any ground.

### Article 16
### Prohibition of arbitrary decisions concerning nationality issues

Persons concerned shall not be arbitrarily deprived of the nationality of the predecessor State, or arbitrarily denied the right to acquire the nationality of the successor State or any right of option, to which they are entitled in relation to the succession of States.

### Article 17
### Procedures relating to nationality issues

Applications relating to the acquisition, retention or renunciation of nationality or to the exercise of the right of option, in relation to the succession of States, shall be processed without undue delay. Relevant decisions shall be issued in writing and shall be open to effective administrative or judicial review.

### Article 18
### Exchange of information, consultation and negotiation

1. States concerned shall exchange information and consult in order to identify any detrimental effects on persons concerned with respect to their nationality and other connected issues regarding their status as a result of the succession of States.

2. States concerned shall, when necessary, seek a solution to eliminate or mitigate such detrimental effects by negotiation and, as appropriate, through agreement.

### Article 19
### Other States

1. Nothing in the present articles requires States to treat persons concerned having no effective link with a State concerned as nationals of that State, unless this would result in treating those persons as if they were stateless.

2. Nothing in the present articles precludes States from treating persons concerned, who have become stateless as a result of the succession of States, as nationals of the State concerned whose nationality they would be entitled to acquire or retain, if such treatment is beneficial to those persons.

## Part II. Provisions relating to specific categories of succession of States

### Section 1. Transfer of part of the territory

### Article 20

### Attribution of the nationality of the successor State and withdrawal of the nationality of the predecessor State

When part of the territory of a State is transferred by that State to another State, the successor State shall attribute its nationality to the persons concerned who have their habitual residence in the transferred territory and the predecessor State shall withdraw its nationality from such persons, unless otherwise indicated by the exercise of the right of option which such persons shall be granted. The predecessor State shall not, however, withdraw its nationality before such persons acquire the nationality of the successor State.

### Section 2. Unification of States

### Article 21

### Attribution of the nationality of the successor State

Subject to the provisions of article 8, when two or more States unite and so form one successor State, irrespective of whether the successor State is a new State or whether its personality is identical to that of one of the States which have united, the successor State shall attribute its nationality to all persons who, on the date of the succession of States, had the nationality of a predecessor State.

### Section 3. Dissolution of a State

### Article 22

### Attribution of the nationality of the successor States

When a State dissolves and ceases to exist and the various parts of the territory of the predecessor State form two or more successor States, each successor State shall, unless otherwise indicated by the exercise of a right of option, attribute its nationality to:

(*a*) Persons concerned having their habitual residence in its territory; and

(*b*) Subject to the provisions of article 8:

(i) Persons concerned not covered by subparagraph (*a*) having an appropriate legal connection with a constituent unit of the predecessor State that has become part of that successor State;

(ii) Persons concerned not entitled to a nationality of any State concerned under subparagraphs (*a*) and (*b*) (i) having their habitual residence in a third State, who were born in or, before leaving the predecessor State, had their last habitual residence in what has become the territory of that successor State or having any other appropriate connection with that successor State.

### Article 23

### Granting of the right of option by the successor States

1. Successor States shall grant a right of option to persons concerned covered by the provisions of article 22 who are qualified to acquire the nationality of two or more successor States.

2. Each successor State shall grant a right to opt for its nationality to persons concerned who are not covered by the provisions of article 22.

### Section 4. Separation of part or parts of the territory

### Article 24

### Attribution of the nationality of the successor State

When part or parts of the territory of a State separate from that State and form one or more successor States while the predecessor State continues to exist, a successor State shall, unless otherwise indicated by the exercise of a right of option, attribute its nationality to:

(*a*) Persons concerned having their habitual residence in its territory; and

(*b*) Subject to the provisions of article 8:

(i) Persons concerned not covered by subparagraph (*a*) having an appropriate legal connection with a constituent unit of the predecessor State that has become part of that successor State;

(ii) Persons concerned not entitled to a nationality of any State concerned under subparagraphs (*a*) and (*b*) (i) having their habitual residence in a third State, who were born in or, before leaving the predecessor State, had their last habitual residence in what has become the territory of that successor State or having any other appropriate connection with that successor State.

### Article 25

### Withdrawal of the nationality of the predecessor State

1. The predecessor State shall withdraw its nationality from persons concerned qualified to acquire the nationality of the successor State in accordance with article 24. It shall not, however, withdraw its nationality before such persons acquire the nationality of the successor State.

2. Unless otherwise indicated by the exercise of a right of option, the predecessor State shall not, however, withdraw its nationality from persons referred to in paragraph 1 who:

(*a*) Have their habitual residence in its territory;

(*b*) Are not covered by subparagraph (*a*) and have an appropriate legal connection with a constituent unit of the predecessor State that has remained part of the predecessor State;

(*c*) Have their habitual residence in a third State, and were born in or, before leaving the predecessor State, had their last habitual residence in what has remained part of the territory of the predecessor State or have any other appropriate connection with that State.

### Article 26
### Granting of the right of option by the predecessor and the successor States

Predecessor and successor States shall grant a right of option to all persons concerned covered by the provisions of article 24 and paragraph 2 of article 25 who are qualified to have the nationality of both the predecessor and successor States or of two or more successor States.

## RESOLUTION 55/154

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/611 and Corr.1, para. 8)[34]

### 55/154. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

*The General Assembly*,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[35]

*Recalling* Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[36] the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[37] and the responsibilities of the host country,

*Recalling also* that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,

*Recognizing* that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 62 of its report;[35]

2. *Notes* that the Committee has taken note of the opinion of the Legal Counsel of 1 September 2000 concerning the issuance of visas to participants in United Nations-related meetings[38] and that, in this connection, the Committee has recommended that the host country take that opinion into consideration in the future;

3. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations is in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, and requests the host country to continue to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and hopes that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

5. *Notes* that during the reporting period the travel controls previously imposed by the host country on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities remained in effect, and requests the host country to consider removing such travel controls, and in this regard notes the positions of affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

6. *Also notes* that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to ensure the issuance, in a timely manner, of entry visas to representatives of Member States, pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,[37] inter alia, for the purpose of their attending official United Nations meetings;

7. *Requests* the host country to continue to take steps to resolve the problem relating to the parking of diplomatic vehicles in a fair, balanced and non-discriminatory way, with a view to responding to the growing needs of the diplomatic community, and to continue to consult with the Committee on this important issue;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country;

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[34] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, France and Spain.

[35] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/55/26).

[36] Resolution 22 A (I).

[37] See resolution 169 (II).

[38] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/55/26), para. 51.

9. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI);

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

## RESOLUTION 55/155

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/612, para. 8)[39]

### 55/155. Establishment of the International Criminal Court

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 47/33 of 25 November 1992, 48/31 of 9 December 1993, 49/53 of 9 December 1994, 50/46 of 11 December 1995, 51/207 of 17 December 1996, 52/160 of 15 December 1997, 53/105 of 8 December 1998 and 54/105 of 9 December 1999,

*Noting* that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court was adopted on 17 July 1998[40] and is open for signature in New York at United Nations Headquarters until 31 December 2000, and taking note of the Final Act of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court done at Rome on 17 July 1998,[41]

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted at the Millennium Assembly,[42] in which heads of State and Government stressed the importance of the International Criminal Court,

*Noting in particular* that the Conference decided to establish a Preparatory Commission for the Court,[43] and that the Commission held three sessions in 1999, from 16 to 26 February, 26 July to 13 August and 29 November to 17 December, and three sessions in 2000, from 13 to 31 March, 12 to 30 June and 27 November to 8 December,

*Bearing in mind* the mandate of the Preparatory Commission, as set out in resolution F adopted by the Conference,[43] with regard to the preparation of proposals for practical arrangements for the establishment and coming into operation of the Court,

*Recalling*, with regard to future work of the Preparatory Commission and related working groups, the decision agreed upon by the Commission, referred to in paragraph 14 of the summary of the proceedings of its fifth session,[44] to establish three new working groups, in addition to the working group on the crime of aggression,

*Recognizing* the continuing need for making available adequate resources and secretariat services to the Preparatory Commission in order to enable it to discharge its functions efficiently and expeditiously,

*Emphasizing* the need to make the necessary arrangements for the commencement of the functions of the International Criminal Court in order to ensure its effective operation,

*Noting* that a growing number of States have deposited their instruments of ratification and that a significant number of States have signed the Statute,

1. *Reiterates* the historic significance of the adoption of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[40]

2. *Calls upon* all States to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as appropriate, and encourages efforts aimed at promoting awareness of the results of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court and of the provisions of the Statute;

3. *Welcomes* the important work accomplished by the Preparatory Commission in the completion of the part of the mandate relating to the draft texts of the rules of procedure and evidence and the elements of crimes, as required under resolution F,[43] and notes in this respect the importance of the growing participation in the work of the working group on the crime of aggression;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reconvene the Preparatory Commission, in accordance with resolution F, from 26 February to 9 March and from 24 September to 5 October 2001, to continue to carry out the mandate of that resolution and, in that connection, to discuss ways to enhance the effectiveness and acceptance of the Court;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make available to the Preparatory Commission secretariat services, including the preparation of working documents if so requested by the Commission, to enable it to perform its functions;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to invite, as observers to the Preparatory Commission, representatives of organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly, pursuant to its relevant

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[39] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the representative of the Netherlands.

[40] A/CONF.183/9.

[41] A/CONF.183/10.

[42] See resolution 55/2.

[43] See A/CONF.183/10, annex I.

[44] See PCNICC/2000/L.3/Rev.1.

resolutions,[45] to participate in the capacity of observers in its sessions and work, and also to invite as observers to the Commission representatives of interested regional intergovernmental organizations and other interested international bodies, including the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Tribunal for Rwanda;

7. *Notes* that non-governmental organizations may participate in the work of the Preparatory Commission by attending its plenary and its other open meetings, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission, receiving copies of the official documents and making available their materials to delegates;

8. *Encourages* States to make voluntary contributions to the trust funds established pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 51/207 and 52/160, the mandates of which were expanded pursuant to Assembly resolution 53/105, towards meeting the costs of the participation in the work of the Preparatory Commission of the least developed countries and of those developing countries not covered by the trust fund established pursuant to resolution 51/207;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Establishment of the International Criminal Court".

## RESOLUTION 55/156

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/613 and Corr.1, para. 14)[46]

### 55/156. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,

*Recalling also* its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

*Recalling further* its resolution 47/62 of 11 December 1992 on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council,

*Taking note* of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters Related to the Security Council,[47]

*Recalling* the elements relevant to the work of the Special Committee contained in its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 51/241 of 31 July 1997 on the strengthening of the United Nations system and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", by which it adopted the texts on coordination and the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations, which are annexed to that resolution,

*Recalling further* that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and reaffirming its authority and independence,

*Considering* the desirability of finding practical ways and means to strengthen the Court, taking into consideration, in particular, the needs resulting from its increased workload,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*,[48]

*Recalling* its resolution 54/106 of 9 December 1999,

*Having considered* the report of the Special Committee on the work of its session held in 2000,[49]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization;[49]

2. *Decides* that the Special Committee shall hold its next session from 2 to 12 April 2001;

3. *Requests* the Special Committee, at its session in 2001, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995:

(*a*) To continue its consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which may be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 2001;

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[45] Resolutions 253 (III), 477 (V), 2011 (XX), 3208 (XXIX), 3237 (XXIX), 3369 (XXX), 31/3, 33/18, 35/2, 35/3, 36/4, 42/10, 43/6, 44/6, 45/6, 46/8, 47/4, 48/2, 48/3, 48/4, 48/5, 48/237, 48/265, 49/1, 49/2, 50/2, 51/1, 51/6, 51/204, 52/6, 53/5, 53/6, 53/216, 54/5, 54/10 and 54/195.

[46] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt.

[47] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 47* (A/54/47).

[48] A/55/340.

[49] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/55/33).

(*b*) To continue to consider on a priority basis the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter, taking into consideration the reports of the Secretary-General,[50] the proposals submitted on this subject, the debate on the question which was held by the Sixth Committee at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly and the text on the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations contained in annex II to Assembly resolution 51/242, and also the implementation of the provisions of Assembly resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997, 53/107 of 8 December 1998 and 54/107 of 9 December 1999;

(*c*) To continue its work on the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States and, in this context, to continue its consideration of proposals relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes between States, including the proposal on the establishment of a dispute settlement service offering or responding with its services early in disputes and those proposals relating to the enhancement of the role of the International Court of Justice;

(*d*) To continue to consider proposals concerning the Trusteeship Council in the light of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/55 of 11 December 1995,[51] the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform"[52] and the views expressed by States on this subject at the previous sessions of the General Assembly;

(*e*) To continue to consider, on a priority basis, ways and means of improving its working methods and enhancing its efficiency with a view to identifying widely acceptable measures for future implementation;

4. *Takes note* of subparagraphs (*a*) to (*h*) of paragraph 33 of the report of the Secretary-General,[48] commends the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to reduce the backlog in the publication of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, and endorses the efforts of the Secretary-General to eliminate the backlog in the publication of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

5. *Invites* the Special Committee at its session in 2001 to continue to identify new subjects for consideration in its future work with a view to contributing to the revitalization of the work of the United Nations, to discuss how to offer its assistance to the working groups of the General Assembly in this field and, in this regard, to consider ways and means of improving coordination between the Special Committee and other working groups dealing with the reform of the Organization, including the role of the Chairperson of the Special Committee for this purpose;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at the fifty-sixth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

## RESOLUTION 55/157

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/613 and Corr.1, para. 14)[53]

### 55/157. Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

*The General Assembly*,

*Concerned* about the special economic problems confronting certain States arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States, and taking into account the obligation of Members of the United Nations under Article 49 of the Charter of the United Nations to join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Security Council,

*Recalling* the right of third States confronted with special economic problems of that nature to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter,

*Recognizing* the desirability of the consideration of further appropriate procedures for consultations to deal in a more effective manner with the problems referred to in Article 50 of the Charter,

*Recalling*:

(*a*) The report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[54] in particular paragraph 41 thereof,

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[50] A/48/573-S/26705, A/49/356, A/50/60-S/1995/1, A/50/361, A/50/423, A/51/317, A/52/308, A/53/312, A/54/383 and Add.1 and A/55/295 and Add.1.

[51] A/50/1011.

[52] A/51/950 and Add.1–7.

[53] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the representative of Nigeria.

[54] A/47/277-S/24111.

(*b*) Its resolution 47/120 A of 18 December 1992, entitled "An Agenda for Peace: preventive diplomacy and related matters", its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993, entitled "An Agenda for Peace", in particular section IV thereof, entitled "Special economic problems arising from the implementation of preventive or enforcement measures", and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", in particular annex II thereto, entitled "Question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations",

(c) The position paper of the Secretary-General entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace",[55]

(*d*) The statement by the President of the Security Council of 22 February 1995,[56]

(*e*) The report of the Secretary-General[57] prepared pursuant to the statement by the President of the Security Council[58] regarding the question of special economic problems of States as a result of sanctions imposed under Chapter VII of the Charter,

(*f*) The annual overview reports of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for the period from 1992 to 2000,[59] in particular the sections therein on assistance to countries invoking Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations ,

(*g*) The reports of the Secretary-General on economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia[60] and General Assembly resolutions 48/210 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 A of 2 December 1994, 50/58 E of 12 December 1995, 51/30 A of 5 December 1996, 52/169 H of 16 December 1997 and 54/96 G of 15 December 1999,

(*h*) The reports of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization on the work of its sessions held in the years 1994 to 2000,[61]

(i) The reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter,[62]

(*j*) The report of the Secretary-General to the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations,[63] in particular section IV.E thereof, entitled "Targeting sanctions",

(*k*) The United Nations Millennium Declaration,[64] in particular paragraph 9 thereof,

*Taking note* of the most recent report of the Secretary-General, submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/107 of 9 December 1999,[65]

*Taking note also* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations programmes relating to global development trends, issues and policies, and global approaches to social and microeconomic issues and policies, and the corresponding subprogrammes in the regional commissions,[66] in particular recommendation 3 contained therein, as approved by the Committee for Programme and Coordination, at its fortieth session,[67]

*Recalling* that the question of assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions has been addressed recently in several forums, including the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary organs,

*Recalling also* the measures taken by the Security Council, in accordance with the statement by the President of the Security Council of 16 December 1994,[68] that, as part of the effort of the Council to improve the flow of information and the exchange of ideas between members of the Council and other States Members of the United Nations, there should be increased recourse to open meetings, in particular at an early stage in its consideration of a subject,

*Recalling further* the measures taken by the Security Council in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 January 1999[69] aimed at improving the work of the sanctions committees, including increasing the effectiveness and transparency of the those committees,

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[55] A/50/60-S/1995/1.

[56] S/PRST/1995/9; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1995.*

[57] A/48/573-S/26705.

[58] S/25036; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1992.*

[59] E/1993/81, E/1994/19, E/1995/21, E/1996/18 and Add.1, E/1997/54 and Corr.1, E/1998/21, E/1999/48 and E/2000/53.

[60] A/49/356, A/50/423, A/51/356, A/52/535 and A/54/534.

[61] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/49/33); ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/50/33); ibid., *Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/51/33); ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 33* and corrigendum (A/52/33 and Corr.1); ibid., *Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/53/33); ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 33* and corrigendum (A/54/33 and Corr.1); and ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/55/33).

[62] A/50/361, A/51/317, A/52/308, A/53/312, A/54/383 and A/55/295 and Add.1.

[63] A/54/2000.

[64] See resolution 55/2.

[65] A/55/295 and Add.1.

[66] E/AC.51/2000/2.

[67] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 16* and corrigendum (A/55/16 and Corr.1), chap. II.C.1, para. 243.

[68] See S/PRST/1994/81; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994.*

[69] S/1999/92; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999.*

*Stressing* that, in the formulation of sanctions regimes, due account should be taken of the potential effects of sanctions on third States,

*Stressing also*, in this context, the powers of the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter and the primary responsibility of the Council under Article 24 of the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security in order to ensure prompt and effective action by the United Nations,

*Recalling* that, under Article 31 of the Charter, any Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Security Council may participate, without vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Council whenever the latter considers that the interests of that Member are specially affected,

*Recognizing* that the imposition of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter has been causing special economic problems in third States and that it is necessary to intensify efforts to address those problems effectively,

*Taking into consideration* the views of third States which could be affected by the imposition of sanctions,

*Recognizing* that assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions would further contribute to an effective and comprehensive approach by the international community to sanctions imposed by the Security Council,

*Recognizing also* that the international community at large and, in particular, international institutions involved in providing economic and financial assistance should continue to take into account and address in a more effective manner the special economic problems of affected third States arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter, in view of their magnitude and of the adverse impact on the economies of those States,

*Recalling* the provisions of its resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997, 53/107 of 8 December 1998 and 54/107 of 9 December 1999,

1. *Renews its invitation* to the Security Council to consider the establishment of further mechanisms or procedures, as appropriate, for consultations as early as possible under Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations with third States which are or may be confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Council under Chapter VII of the Charter, with regard to a solution of those problems, including appropriate ways and means for increasing the effectiveness of its methods and procedures applied in the consideration of requests by the affected States for assistance;

2. *Welcomes* the measures taken by the Security Council since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 50/51, most recently the note by the President of the Security Council of 17 April 2000,[70] whereby the members of the Security Council decided to establish an informal working group of the Council to develop general recommendations on how to improve the effectiveness of United Nations sanctions, looks forward to the findings of the working group, in particular to those regarding the issues of unintended impacts of sanctions and assistance to States in implementing sanctions, and strongly recommends that the Council continue its efforts to further enhance the effectiveness and transparency of the sanctions committees, to streamline their working procedures and to facilitate access to them by representatives of States that find themselves confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of sanctions;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pursue the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/51, 51/208, 52/162, 53/107 and 54/107 and to ensure that the competent units within the Secretariat develop the adequate capacity and appropriate modalities, technical procedures and guidelines to continue, on a regular basis, to collate and coordinate information about international assistance available to third States affected by the implementation of sanctions, to continue developing a possible methodology for assessing the adverse consequences actually incurred by third States and to explore innovative and practical measures of assistance to the affected third States;

4. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General containing a summary of the deliberations and main findings of the ad hoc expert group meeting on developing a methodology for assessing the consequences incurred by third States as a result of preventive or enforcement measures and on exploring innovative and practical measures of international assistance to the affected third States,[71] and renews its invitation to States and relevant international organizations within and outside the United Nations system which have not yet done so to provide their views regarding the report of the ad hoc expert group meeting;

5. *Renews its request* to the Secretary-General to present to the General Assembly any further views that he may have, as appropriate, on the deliberations and main findings, including the recommendations, of the ad hoc expert group on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions, taking into account the views of States, the organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and other international organizations, as

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[70] S/2000/319; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000*.

[71] A/53/312.

well as the forthcoming report of the informal working group of the Security Council on general issues relating to sanctions;

6. *Reaffirms* the important role of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in mobilizing and monitoring, as appropriate, the economic assistance efforts by the international community and the United Nations system on behalf of States confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Security Council and, as appropriate, in identifying solutions to the special economic problems of those States;

7. *Takes note* of the decision of the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2000/32 of 28 July 2000, to continue consideration of the question of assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions, invites the Council, at its organizational session for 2001, to make appropriate arrangements for this purpose within its programme of work for 2001, and decides to transmit the most recent report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions,[65] together with the relevant background materials, to the Council at its substantive session of 2001;

8. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions, other international organizations, regional organizations and Member States to address more specifically and directly, where appropriate, special economic problems of third States affected by sanctions imposed under Chapter VII of the Charter and, for this purpose, to consider improving procedures for consultations to maintain a constructive dialogue with such States, including through regular and frequent meetings as well as, where appropriate, special meetings between the affected third States and the donor community, with the participation of United Nations agencies and other international organizations;

9. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, at its session in 2001, to continue to consider on a priority basis the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter, taking into consideration all of the related reports of the Secretary-General, in particular the 1998 report containing a summary of the deliberations and main findings of the ad hoc expert group meeting convened pursuant to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 52/162,[71] together with the most recent report of the Secretary-General on this question,[65] the forthcoming report of the informal working group of the Security Council on general issues relating to sanctions, the proposals submitted on the question, the debate on the question in the Sixth Committee during the fifty-fifth session of the Assembly and the text on the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations contained in annex II to Assembly resolution 51/242, as well as the implementation of the provisions of Assembly resolutions 50/51, 51/208, 52/162, 53/107 and 54/107 and the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to consider, within the Sixth Committee, or a working group of the Committee, at the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, further progress in the elaboration of effective measures aimed at the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

## RESOLUTION 55/158

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/614, para. 11),[72] by a recorded vote of 151 to none, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

*In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe

*Against:* None

*Abstentions:* Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic

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[72] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the representative of Canada.

## 55/158. Measures to eliminate international terrorism

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism,

*Convinced* of the importance of the consideration of measures to eliminate international terrorism by the General Assembly as the universal organ having competence to do so,

*Recalling* the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[73]

*Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[74]

*Deeply disturbed* by the persistence of terrorist acts, which have been carried out worldwide,

*Stressing* the need to strengthen further international cooperation between States and between international organizations and agencies, regional organizations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, international law and relevant international conventions,

*Mindful* of the need to enhance the role of the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies in combating international terrorism, and of the proposals of the Secretary-General to enhance the role of the Organization in this respect,

*Recalling* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, wherein the General Assembly encouraged States to review urgently the scope of the existing international legal provisions on the prevention, repression and elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with the aim of ensuring that there was a comprehensive legal framework covering all aspects of the matter,

*Taking note* of the final document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,[75] which reiterated the collective position of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on terrorism and reaffirmed the previous initiative of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, calling for an international summit conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,[76] and other relevant initiatives,

*Recalling* its decision in resolution 54/110 of 9 December 1999 that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 should address the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

*Noting* regional efforts to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, including through the elaboration of and adherence to regional conventions,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General,[77] the report of the Ad Hoc Committee[78] and the report of the Working Group of the Sixth Committee established pursuant to resolution 54/110,[79]

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomsoever committed;

2. *Reiterates* that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them;

3. *Reiterates its call* upon all States to adopt further measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of international law, including international standards of human rights, to prevent terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism and, to that end, to consider in particular the implementation of the measures set out in paragraphs 3 (*a*) to (*f*) of resolution 51/210;

4. *Also reiterates its call* upon all States, with the aim of enhancing the efficient implementation of relevant legal instruments, to intensify, as and where appropriate, the exchange of information on facts related to terrorism and, in so doing, to avoid the dissemination of inaccurate or unverified information;

5. *Reiterates its call* upon States to refrain from financing, encouraging, providing training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities;

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[73] See resolution 50/6.

[74] See resolution 55/2.

[75] A/54/917-S/2000/580, annex.

[76] See A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I, paras. 149–162.

[77] A/55/179 and Add.1.

[78] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/55/37).

[79] A/C.6/55/L.2.

6. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation as well as actions by States to combat terrorism should be conducted in conformity with the principles of the Charter, international law and relevant international conventions;

7. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider, as a matter of priority, becoming parties to relevant conventions and protocols as referred to in paragraph 6 of resolution 51/210, as well as the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings,[80] and the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,[81] and calls upon all States to enact, as appropriate, domestic legislation necessary to implement the provisions of those conventions and protocols, to ensure that the jurisdiction of their courts enables them to bring to trial the perpetrators of terrorist acts, and to cooperate with and provide support and assistance to other States and relevant international and regional organizations to that end;

8. *Notes with appreciation and satisfaction* that, during the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly and the Millennium Assembly, a number of States became parties to the relevant conventions and protocols referred to in paragraph 7 above, thereby realizing the objective of wider acceptance and implementation of those conventions;

9. *Reaffirms* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism contained in the annex to resolution 49/60 and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism contained in the annex to resolution 51/210, and calls upon all States to implement them;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Centre for International Crime Prevention in Vienna, after reviewing existing possibilities within the United Nations system, to enhance, through its mandate, the capabilities of the United Nations in the prevention of terrorism;

11. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to submit to the Secretary-General information on their national laws and regulations regarding the prevention and suppression of acts of international terrorism;

12. *Invites* regional intergovernmental organizations to submit to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted at the regional level to eliminate international terrorism;

13. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 shall continue to elaborate a comprehensive convention on international terrorism and shall continue its efforts to resolve the outstanding issues relating to the elaboration of a draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, as a means of further developing a comprehensive legal framework of conventions dealing with international terrorism, and that it shall keep on its agenda the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

14. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall meet from 12 to 23 February 2001 to continue the elaboration of a draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism, with appropriate time allocated to the continued consideration of outstanding issues relating to the elaboration of a draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, that it shall keep on its agenda the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and that the work shall continue during the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly between 15 and 26 October 2001, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work;

16. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session in the event of the completion of the draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism;

17. *Also requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on progress made in the implementation of its mandate;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

## RESOLUTION 55/159

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/615, para. 6)[82]

### 55/159. Review of the Statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal

*The General Assembly,*

*Acknowledging with gratitude* the important contribution which the United Nations Administrative Tribunal ("the

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[80] Resolution 52/164, annex.

[81] Resolution 54/109, annex.

[82] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: France, Ireland and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Tribunal") has made to the functioning of the United Nations system, and commending the members of the Tribunal on their valuable work,

*Desiring* to assist the Tribunal in carrying out its future work as effectively as possible,

*Taking note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the administration of justice at the United Nations,[83]

*Noting* the need to consider the appropriateness of the establishment of an appeals mechanism in relation to the decisions of the Tribunal,

*Recognizing* that, in appointing members of the Tribunal, the General Assembly should take into account the need to ensure adequate representation on the Tribunal of the principal legal systems of the world and fair geographical representation, and bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to amend the Statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal ("the Statute"), with effect from 1 January 2001, as follows:

(*a*) Article 3, paragraph 1, shall be amended to read as follows:

> "The Tribunal shall be composed of seven members, no two of whom may be nationals of the same State. Members shall possess the requisite qualifications and experience, including, as appropriate, legal qualifications and experience. Only three members shall sit in any particular case";

(*b*) Article 3, paragraph 2, shall be amended to read as follows:

> "The members shall be appointed by the General Assembly for four years and may be reappointed once. A member appointed to replace a member whose term of office has not expired shall hold office for the remainder of his or her predecessor's term, and may be reappointed once";

(*c*) A new article shall be inserted as article 8, to read as follows:

> "Where the three members of the Tribunal sitting in any particular case consider that the case raises a significant question of law, they may, at any time before they render judgement, refer the case for consideration by the whole Tribunal. The quorum for a hearing by the whole Tribunal shall be five members";

(*d*) Former articles 8 to 13 of the Statute shall be renumbered 9 to 14, and references to those articles shall be amended accordingly;

(*e*) The pronouns "he" and "his", wherever they appear in the Statute, shall be amended to read "he or she" or "his or her", respectively;

(*f*) In article 7, paragraph 7, and in renumbered article 11, paragraph 4, references to "five official languages" shall be amended to read "six official languages";

2. *Also decides* that members serving on the Tribunal as at 1 January 2001 shall have their current term of office extended by one year, and that thereafter, provided that they have not served on the Tribunal for more than seven years, they may be reappointed once;

3. *Further decides* that the Statute, with effect from 1 January 2001, shall read as it appears in the annex to the present resolution.

## Annex

## Statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the United Nations

### Article 1

A Tribunal is established by the present Statute to be known as the United Nations Administrative Tribunal.

### Article 2

1. The Tribunal shall be competent to hear and pass judgement upon applications alleging non-observance of contracts of employment of staff members of the Secretariat of the United Nations or of the terms of appointment of such staff members. The words "contracts" and "terms of appointment" include all pertinent regulations and rules in force at the time of alleged non-observance, including the staff pension regulations.

2. The Tribunal shall be open:

(*a*) To any staff member of the Secretariat of the United Nations even after his or her employment has ceased, and to any person who has succeeded to the staff member's rights on his or her death;

(*b*) To any other person who can show that he or she is entitled to rights under any contract or terms of appointment, including the provisions of staff regulations and rules upon which the staff member could have relied.

3. In the event of a dispute as to whether the Tribunal has competence, the matter shall be settled by the decision of the Tribunal.

4. The Tribunal shall not be competent, however, to deal with any applications where the cause of complaint arose prior to 1 January 1950.

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[83] See A/55/57.

### Article 3

1. The Tribunal shall be composed of seven members, no two of whom may be nationals of the same State. Members shall possess the requisite qualifications and experience, including, as appropriate, legal qualifications and experience. Only three members shall sit in any particular case.

2. The members shall be appointed by the General Assembly for four years and may be reappointed once. A member appointed to replace a member whose term of office has not expired shall hold office for the remainder of his or her predecessor's term, and may be reappointed once.

3. The Tribunal shall elect its President and its two Vice-Presidents from among its members.

4. The Secretary-General shall provide the Tribunal with an Executive Secretary and such other staff as may be considered necessary.

5. No member of the Tribunal can be dismissed by the General Assembly unless the other members are of the unanimous opinion that he or she is unsuited for further service.

6. In case of a resignation of a member of the Tribunal, the resignation shall be addressed to the President of the Tribunal for transmission to the Secretary-General. This last notification makes the place vacant.

### Article 4

The Tribunal shall hold ordinary sessions at dates to be fixed by its rules, subject to there being cases on its list which, in the opinion of the President, justify holding the session. Extraordinary sessions may be convoked by the President when required by the cases on the list.

### Article 5

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall make the administrative arrangements necessary for the functioning of the Tribunal.

2. The expenses of the Tribunal shall be borne by the United Nations.

### Article 6

1. Subject to the provisions of the present Statute, the Tribunal shall establish its rules.

2. The rules shall include provisions concerning:

(*a*) Election of the President and Vice-Presidents;

(*b*) Composition of the Tribunal for its sessions;

(*c*) Presentation of applications and the procedure to be followed in respect to them;

(*d*) Intervention by persons to whom the Tribunal is open under paragraph 2 of article 2, whose rights may be affected by the judgement;

(*e*) Hearing, for purposes of information, of persons to whom the Tribunal is open under paragraph 2 of article 2, even though they are not parties to the case; and generally,

(*f*) Other matters relating to the functioning of the Tribunal.

### Article 7

1. An application shall not be receivable unless the person concerned has previously submitted the dispute to the joint appeals body provided for in the Staff Regulations and the latter has communicated its opinion to the Secretary-General, except where the Secretary-General and the applicant have agreed to submit the application directly to the Administrative Tribunal.

2. In the event of the joint body's recommendations being favourable to the application submitted to it, and insofar as this is the case, an application to the Tribunal shall be receivable if the Secretary-General has:

(*a*) Rejected the recommendations;

(*b*) Failed to take any action within thirty days following the communication of the opinion;

(*c*) Failed to carry out the recommendations within thirty days following the communication of the opinion.

3. In the event that the recommendations made by the joint body and accepted by the Secretary-General are unfavourable to the applicant, and insofar as this is the case, the application shall be receivable, unless the joint body unanimously considers that it is frivolous.

4. An application shall not be receivable unless it is filed within ninety days reckoned from the respective dates and periods referred to in paragraph 2 above, or within ninety days reckoned from the date of the communication of the joint body's opinion containing recommendations unfavourable to the applicant. If the circumstance rendering the application receivable by the Tribunal, pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 3 above, is anterior to the date of announcement of the first session of the Tribunal, the time limit of ninety days shall begin to run from that date. Nevertheless, the said time limit on his or her behalf shall be extended to one year if the heirs of a deceased staff member or the trustee of a staff member who is not in a position to manage his or her own affairs files the application in the name of the said staff member.

5. In any particular case, the Tribunal may decide to suspend the provisions regarding time limits.

6. The filing of an application shall not have the effect of suspending the execution of the decision contested.

7. Applications may be filed in any of the six official languages of the United Nations.

### Article 8

Where the three members of the Tribunal sitting in any particular case consider that the case raises a significant question of law, they may, at any time before they render judgement, refer the case for consideration by the whole Tribunal. The quorum for a hearing by the whole Tribunal shall be five members.

### Article 9

The oral proceedings of the Tribunal shall be held in public unless the Tribunal decides that exceptional circumstances require that they be held in private.

### Article 10

1. If the Tribunal finds that the application is well founded, it shall order the rescinding of the decision contested or the specific performance of the obligation invoked. At the same time, the Tribunal shall fix the amount of compensation to be paid to the applicant for the injury sustained should the Secretary-General, within thirty days of the notification of the judgement, decide, in the interest of the United Nations, that the applicant shall be compensated without further action being taken in his or her case, provided that such compensation shall not exceed the equivalent of two years' net base salary of the applicant. The Tribunal may, however, in exceptional cases, when it considers it justified, order the payment of a higher indemnity. A statement of the reasons for the Tribunal's decision shall accompany each such order.

2. Should the Tribunal find that the procedure prescribed in the Staff Regulations or Staff Rules has not been observed, it may, at the request of the Secretary-General and prior to the determination of the merits of the case, order the case remanded for institution or correction of the required procedure. Where a case is remanded, the Tribunal may order the payment of compensation, which is not to exceed the equivalent of three months' net base salary, to the applicant for such loss as may have been caused by the procedural delay.

3. In all applicable cases, compensation shall be fixed by the Tribunal and paid by the United Nations or, as appropriate, by the specialized agency participating under article 14.

### Article 11

1. The Tribunal shall take all decisions by a majority vote.

2. Subject to the provisions of article 12, the judgements of the Tribunal shall be final and without appeal.

3. The judgements shall state the reasons on which they are based.

4. The judgements shall be drawn up, in any of the six official languages of the United Nations, in two originals, which shall be deposited in the archives of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

5. A copy of the judgement shall be communicated to each of the parties in the case. Copies shall also be made available on request to interested persons.

### Article 12

The Secretary-General or the applicant may apply to the Tribunal for a revision of a judgement on the basis of the discovery of some fact of such a nature as to be a decisive factor, which fact was, when the judgement was given, unknown to the Tribunal and also to the party claiming revision, always provided that such ignorance was not due to negligence. The application must be made within thirty days of the discovery of the fact and within one year of the date of the judgement. Clerical or arithmetical mistakes in judgements, or errors arising therein from any accidental slip or omission, may at any time be corrected by the Tribunal either of its own motion or on the application of any of the parties.

### Article 13

The present Statute may be amended by decision of the General Assembly.

### Article 14

1. The competence of the Tribunal shall be extended to the staff of the Registry of the International Court of Justice upon the exchange of letters between the President of the Court and the Secretary-General of the United Nations establishing the relevant conditions.

2. The Tribunal shall be competent to hear and pass judgement upon applications alleging non-observance of the regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund arising out of the decision of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board submitted to the Tribunal by:

(*a*) Any staff member of a member organization of the Pension Fund which has accepted the jurisdiction of the Tribunal in Pension Fund cases who is eligible under article 21 of the regulations of the Fund as a participant in the Fund, even if his or her employment has ceased, and any person who has acceded to such staff member's rights upon his or her death;

(*b*) Any other person who can show that he or she is entitled to rights under the regulations of the Pension Fund by virtue of the participation in the Fund of a staff member of such member organization.

3. The competence of the Tribunal may be extended to any specialized agency brought into relationship with the United Nations in accordance with the provisions of Articles 57 and 63

of the Charter upon the terms established by a special agreement to be made with each such agency by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Each such special agreement shall provide that the agency concerned shall be bound by the judgements of the Tribunal and be responsible for the payment of any compensation awarded by the Tribunal in respect of a staff member of that agency and shall include, inter alia, provisions concerning the agency's participation in the administrative arrangements for the functioning of the Tribunal and concerning its sharing the expenses of the Tribunal.

4. The competence of the Tribunal may also be extended, with the approval of the General Assembly, to any other international organization or entity established by a treaty and participating in the common system of conditions of service, upon the terms set out in a special agreement between the organization or entity concerned and the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Each such special agreement shall provide that the organization or entity concerned shall be bound by the judgements of the Tribunal and be responsible for the payment of any compensation awarded by the Tribunal in respect of a staff member of that organization or entity and shall include, inter alia, provisions concerning its participation in the administrative arrangements for the functioning of the Tribunal and concerning its sharing the expenses of the Tribunal.

## RESOLUTION 55/160

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/616, para. 7)[84]

### 55/160. Observer status for the Inter-American Development Bank in the General Assembly

*The General Assembly,*

*Wishing* to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-American Development Bank,

1. *Decides* to invite the Inter-American Development Bank to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

## RESOLUTION 55/161

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2000, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/648, para. 7)[85]

### 55/161. Observer status for the Economic Community of Central African States in the General Assembly

*The General Assembly,*

*Wishing* to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States,

1. *Decides* to invite the Economic Community of Central African States to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

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[84] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

[85] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Guinea, Ireland, Italy, Mauritania, Portugal, Sao Tome and Principe and Spain.

# Annex I

## Allocation of agenda items

### Plenary meetings

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Namibia (item 1).

2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation (item 2).

3. Credentials of representatives to the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly (item 3):

   (*a*) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;

   (*b*) Report of the Credentials Committee.

4. Election of the President of the General Assembly (item 4).

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees (item 5).

6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly (item 6).

7. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations (item 7).

8. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: reports of the General Committee (item 8).

9. General debate (item 9).

10. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (item 10).

11. Report of the Security Council (item 11).

12. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I to VI and VII (sections A to C), VIII and IX] (item 12).

13. Report of the International Court of Justice (item 13).

14. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (item 14).

15. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs (item 15):

    (*a*) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;

    (*b*) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council.

16. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections (item 16):

    (*a*) Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

    (*b*) Election of seventeen members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;

    (*c*) Election of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

17. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (item 17):

    (*h*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;

    (*i*) Appointment of the members of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women;

    (*j*) Approval of the appointment of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

18. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 18).

19. Admission of new Members to the United Nations (item 19).

20. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (item 20):

    (*a*) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

    (*b*) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions;

    (*c*) Assistance to the Palestinian people;

    (*d*) Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan.

21. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States (item 21).

22. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee (item 22).

23. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community (item 23).

24. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (item 24).

25. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States (item 25).

26. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (item 26).

27. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (item 27).

28. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization (item 28).

29. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (item 29).

30. Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, including measures and recommendations agreed upon at its mid-term review (item 30).

31. Elimination of coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion (item 31).

32. United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations (item 32).

33. Culture of peace (item 33).

34. Oceans and the law of the sea (item 34):

    (*a*) Consideration of elements relating to oceans and seas, including improvement of coordination and cooperation;

    (*b*) Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments.

35. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba (item 35).

36. Bethlehem 2000 (item 36).

37. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the special session of the General Assembly in this regard (item 37).

38. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic (item 38).

39. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies (item 39).

40. The situation in the Middle East (item 40).

41. Question of Palestine (item 41).

42. Special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children (item 42).

43. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development (item 43).

44. Global implications of the year 2000 date conversion problem of computers (item 44).

45. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (item 45).

46. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (item 46).

47. Assistance in mine action (item 47).

48. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti (item 48).

49. The situation in East Timor during its transition to independence (item 49).

50. Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (item 50).

51. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (item 51).

52. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (item 52).

53. Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (item 53).

54. Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986 (item 54).

55. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security (item 55).

56. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait (item 56).

57. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations (item 57).

58. Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development (item 58).

59. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters (item 59).

60. United Nations reform: measures and proposals (item 60):
    - (*a*) United Nations reform: measures and proposals;
    - (*b*) The Millennium Assembly of the United Nations.

61. Strengthening of the United Nations system (item 61).

62. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (item 62).

63. Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (item 63).

64. Election of judges of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (item 166).

65. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe (item 170).

66. Towards global partnerships (item 173).

67. The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order (item 174).

68. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict (item 175).

69. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (item 177).

70. Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo (item 178).

71. Review of the problem of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in all its aspects (item 179).

72. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States (item 180).

73. Crime prevention and criminal justice (item 105).

74. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (item 181).

75. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit (item 182).

76. Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula (item 183).

## First Committee
## (DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE)

1. Reduction of military budgets (item 65).

2. Development of good-neighbourly relations among Balkan States (item 66).

3. Maintenance of international security (item 67):

    (*a*) Prevention of the violent disintegration of States;

    (*b*) Stability and development of South-Eastern Europe.

4. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security (item 68).

5. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament (item 69).

6. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East (item 70).

7. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (item 71).

8. Prevention of an arms race in outer space (item 72).

9. General and complete disarmament (item 73):

    (*a*) Notification of nuclear tests;

    (*b*) Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

    (*c*) Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status;

    (*d*) Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol;

    (*e*) Preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems;

    (*f*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;

    (*g*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

    (*h*) Missiles;

    (*i*) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda;

    (*j*) Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures;

    (*k*) Transparency in armaments;

    (*l*) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them;

    (*m*) Reducing nuclear danger;

    (*n*) Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;

(*o*) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

(*p*) Regional disarmament;

(*q*) Nuclear disarmament;

(*r*) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use* of *Nuclear Weapons*;

(*s*) Illicit traffic in small arms;

(*t*) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;

(*u*) Relationship between disarmament and development;

(*v*) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

(*w*) Small arms.

10. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly (item 74):

(*a*) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

(*b*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

(*c*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

(*d*) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;

(*e*) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

(*f*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(*g*) United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

(*h*) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services.

11. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session (item 75):

(*a*) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

(*b*) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

(*c*) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

(*d*) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

(*e*) Disarmament Week.

12. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East (item 76).

13. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (item 77).

14. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region (item 78).

15. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (item 79).

16. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (item 80).

17. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (item 81).

### Special Political and Decolonization Committee
### (Fourth Committee)

1. Effects of atomic radiation (item 82).
2. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 83).
3. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (item 84).
4. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 85).
5. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (item 86).
6. Questions relating to information (item 87).
7. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations (item 88).
8. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 89).
9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (item 90).
10. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter VII (section D)] (item 12).
11. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 91).
12. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 18).
13. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (item 51).

### Second Committee
### (ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COMMITTEE)

1. Macroeconomic policy questions (item 92):
    - (*a*) Trade and development;
    - (*b*) Commodities;
    - (*c*) External debt crisis and development;
    - (*d*) Science and technology for development;
    - (*e*) Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries.
2. Sectoral policy questions (item 93):
    - (*a*) Industrial development cooperation;
    - (*b*) Business and development.
3. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation (item 94):
    - (*a*) Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;
    - (*b*) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy;
    - (*c*) Cultural development;

  - (*d*) High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership;
  - (*e*) Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II).

4. Environment and sustainable development (item 95):
  - (*a*) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;
  - (*b*) Convention on Biological Diversity;
  - (*c*) Water supply and sanitation;
  - (*d*) Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
  - (*e*) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa;
  - (*f*) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005;
  - (*g*) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind.
5. Operational activities for development (item 96).
6. Training and research (item 97).
7. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (item 98).
8. Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) (item 99).
9. Globalization and interdependence (item 100).
10. High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development (item 101).
11. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (item 102).
12. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I to V and VII (sections A to C and E to H) and IX] (item 12).

## Third Committee

(SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE)

1. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family (item 103).
2. Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons (item 104).
3. Crime prevention and criminal justice (item 105).
4. International drug control (item 106).
5. Advancement of women (item 107).
6. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (item 108).
7. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions (item 109).
8. Promotion and protection of the rights of children (item 110).
9. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (item 111).
10. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination (item 112).

11. Right of peoples to self-determination (item 113).

12. Human rights questions (item 114):

    (*a*) Implementation of human rights instruments;

    (*b*) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

    (*c*) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

    (*d*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

    (*e*) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

13. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, III to V, VII (sections A to C and I) and IX] (item 12).

### Fifth Committee

(ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY COMMITTEE)

1. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors (item 115):

    (*a*) United Nations;

    (*b*) United Nations Development Programme;

    (*c*) United Nations Children's Fund;

    (*d*) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

    (*e*) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

    (*f*) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

    (*g*) Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;

    (*h*) United Nations Population Fund;

    (*i*) United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

    (*j*) Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

    (*k*) United Nations Office for Project Services.

2. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (item 116).

3. Programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001 (item 117).

4. Programme planning (item 118).

5. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations (item 119).

6. Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (item 120).

7. Pattern of conferences (item 121).

8. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (item 122).

9. Human resources management (item 123).

10. United Nations common system (item 124).

11. United Nations pension system (item 125).

12. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (item 126).

13. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (item 127).

14. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (item 128).

15. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola (item 129).

16. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991) (item 130):

    (*a*) United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission;

    (*b*) Other activities.

17. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor (item 131).

18. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (item 132).

19. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (item 133).

20. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (item 134).

21. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (item 135).

22. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (item 136).

23. Financing of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (item 137).

24. Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East (item 138):

    (*a*) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;

    (*b*) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

25. Financing and liquidation of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (item 139).

26. Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters (item 140).

27. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II (item 141).

28. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (item 142).

29. Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (item 143).

30. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (item 144).

31. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (item 145).

32. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (item 146).

33. Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (item 147).

34. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (item 148).

35. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group (item 149).

36. Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (item 150).

37. Financing of the Military Observer Group of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (item 151).

38. Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic (item 152).

39. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (item 153):

(*a*) Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations;

(*b*) Relocation of South Africa to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (*c*) of General Assembly resolution 43/232.

40. Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (item 167).

41. Programme budget for the biennium 1998–1999 (item 168).

42. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations (item 169).

43. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (item 176).

44. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, VII (sections B and C) and IX] (item 12).

45. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (item 17):

(*a*) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(*b*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;

(*c*) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors;

(*d*) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;

(*e*) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

(*f*) Appointment of members and alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee;

(*g*) Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission.

## Sixth Committee

(LEGAL COMMITTEE)

1. Progressive development of the principles and norms of international law relating to the new international economic order (item 154).

2. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts (item 155).

3. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives (item 156).

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